

**From:** JW On Watch <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 28, 2019 6:03 PM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** "POTUS Wants to Know Everything" — What DID Obama Know about Trump Targeting?

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**"POTUS Wants to Know Everything" — What DID Obama Know about Trump Targeting?**

□

In this episode of "On Watch," JW Director of Investigations & Research Chris Farrell discusses the Mueller special counsel report & how Barack Obama should be questioned about the effort to target Donald Trump during and after the 2016 election.

**Daywatch Updates**

Article-Image

**Chris Farrell: DOJ's Bruce Ohr is the 'Lynchpin' in the Trump Dossier**

August 17, 2018- JW Director of Investigations and Research Chris Farrell appeared on "Lou Dobbs Tonight" on the Fox Business Network to discuss why the Trump dossier circles around DOJ official Bruce Ohr.

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**Chris Farrell: FBI's Strzok was Incredibly Disingenuous During Testimony**

JW Director of Investigations and Research Chris Farrell appeared on "Lou Dobbs Tonight" on the Fox Business Network to discuss President Trump's rally in North Dakota and FBI official Peter Strzok's testimony on Capitol Hill.

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From: Twitter <info@twitter.com>  
Sent: Friday, November 10, 2017 3:21 PM EST  
To: Hinson, Linda <LHinson@coj.net>  
Subject: #InAllKindsOfWeather Tweeted: Worth noting: South Carolina began the week as a point favorite, and now the spread has shrunk to

TheBlaze, Dan Elkins, GatorNation , Heritage Foundation, judith youngblood also Tweeted.

Â

Your Highlights

#InAllKindsOfWeather  
@AllKindsWeather

Worth noting: South Carolina began the week as a 7.5 point favorite, and now the spread has shrunk to 5.5.

Â 9

TheBlaze  
@theblaze

â\200\230Ladies and gentlemenâ\200\231 greeting banned on NYC subways: â\200\230Theyâ\200\231re trying to be politically correctâ\200\231

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New York City subways are â\200|

theblaze.com



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Dan Elkins  
@RevElkins

Home Sweet Home.

GatorNation  
@NYGATOR1

So we are getting Chip Kelly [twitter.com/scottstricklin](https://twitter.com/scottstricklin) 200|

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4

Heritage Foundation  
@Heritage

Most of the 88 countries that score "repressed" or "mostly unfree" on the Heritage Foundation's Index of Economic Freedom are either communist former communist, or some type of socialist economy.

Communism's Century of Devastation | The Heritage Foundation

President Franklin D. Roosevelt called Dec. 7, 1941 "a day that will live in infamy," and wit... more

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4

37

49

judith youngblood  
@judy8166

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We sent this email to @LhinsonLinda

Twitter, Inc. 1355 Market Street, Suite 900 San Francisco, CA 94103

^

**From:** The Daily Signal <morningbell@heritage.org>

**Sent:** Saturday, December 03, 2016 12:27 PM EST

**To:** Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net>

**Subject:** 'FIXER UPPER' COUPLE UNDER FIRE FOR 'WRONG' VIEWS ON LGBT ISSUES | More Than 800,000 Noncitizens May Have Voted in 2016 Election | The Left's Appalling Whitewashing of Castro's Legacy | EPA Transition Leader Taking an Unwarranted Beating

Dec. 3, 2016

## Chip and Joanna Gaines Under Fire for Maybe Having the 'Wrong' Views on LGBT Issues

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## More Than 800,000 Noncitizens May Have Voted in 2016 Election, Expert Says

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## The Left's Appalling Whitewashing of Castro's Legacy

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## Climate Data Deniers Are Trying to 'Bork' Trump's EPA Transition Leader

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## Meet the Doctor Trump Picked to Dismantle Obamacare

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### WEEKEND READ

## Betsy DeVos Is Sparking a Debate on School Choice. Here's What Really Happened in

## POLICY PICTURE

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**From:** JW Newslink <press@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 19, 2019 11:10 AM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** 'Suppression,' Debunked: Study Concludes Voter ID Laws Do Not Depress Voter Turnout

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NEWSLINK

BREAKING NEWS...

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**'Suppression,' Debunked: Study Concludes Voter ID Laws Do Not Depress Voter Turnout**

Source: [Townhall](#)

A new academic study reviewed the data and reached important conclusions: Strict voter ID laws do not suppress turnout, a new paper finds, regardless of sex, race, Hispanic identity, or party affiliation.

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Background Notes from Judicial Watch

180x150x1

2012-11-08  
**Breitbart, Judicial Watch Voter Survey: 65% of Election Day Voters 'Strongly Support' Voter ID**  
Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

A large majority of

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000012



respondents (65%)  
“strongly support” voters  
being required to show an  
official ID when voting. The  
issue cuts across party  
lines, with 94% of  
Republicans, 59% of  
Democrats, 80% of  
Independents, and 76% of  
overall voters saying that  
IDs should be required.

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04/18/12

### **9th Circuit Upholds Voter ID Law**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

In a much-needed victory  
for voter identification laws,  
a famously liberal federal  
appellate court has upheld  
a state measure requiring  
citizens to show a photo ID  
before casting a ballot in  
an election.

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06/30/14

### **Study: North Carolina Minority Vote Turnout Increased After Stronger Election Integrity Measures Implemented**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Contrary to dire predictions  
by the Obama Department  
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voter turnout has actually  
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bill.

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**From:** JW Newslink <press@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 28, 2019 5:28 PM EST

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** 'Suppression,' Debunked: Study Concludes Voter ID Laws Do Not Depress Voter Turnout

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Source: [Townhall](#)

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2012-11-08

**Breitbart, Judicial  
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65% of Election Day  
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Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

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06/30/14

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**From:** JW Newslink <press@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 10:01 AM EST

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** 58,000 non-U.S. citizens may have voted in at least one election in Texas, election official says

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NEWSLINK

## BREAKING NEWS...

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### 58,000 non-U.S. citizens may have voted in at least one election in Texas, election official says

Source: [Star-Telegram](#)

Texas Secretary of State David Whitley said a year-long evaluation found about 95,000 people described as “non-U.S. citizens” who are registered to vote in Texas. About 58,000 of them voted in Texas elections between 1996 and 2018.

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## Background Notes from Judicial Watch

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2012-01-25

### Texas Sues DOJ

### Over Voter ID Law

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Texas is suing the Department of Justice (DOJ) in federal court for blocking the implementation of a state



voter identification law—  
passed to deter and detect  
election fraud—the Obama  
Administration claims  
discriminates against  
minorities. The Texas  
Legislature passed the  
measure in 2011. More  
than a dozen states—  
including Kansas, Indiana,  
Tennessee and Wisconsin  
—have similar laws.

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2007-05-18

### **Illegal Immigrants**

#### **Vote In Texas**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Hundreds of illegal  
immigrants registered to  
vote and actually cast  
election ballots in one  
Texas county, canceling  
out the votes of United  
States citizens. Election  
officials in the south  
central Texas county of  
Bexar, with a population of  
about 1.5 million and 622  
precincts, have admitted  
that illegal immigrants  
somehow managed to cast  
ballots in elections in  
recent years.

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180x150x3

2014-10-28

### **Obama May Have Been Elected With Illegal Votes**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

A large number of non-  
citizens cast ballots in U.S.  
elections and it's possible  
that the illegal votes were

responsible for President Obama's 2008 victory, according to an in-depth academic study. Voter rolls in a number of states—including Texas—contained the names of individuals who are ineligible to vote.

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## Daywatch Updates

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### Tom Fitton: Hillary Clinton Should Testify Under Oath

October 3, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Mornings on the Mall” on WMAL to discuss the 288 newly uncovered Hillary Clinton emails containing classified information.

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Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: Mueller Operation has Benefitted from “Collusive Efforts” by Fusion GPS and Clinton

December 4, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Fox and Friends First” on the Fox News Channel to discuss meetings with Clinton-DNC law firm that paid for anti-Trump dossier.

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**From:** Twitter <info@twitter.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 06, 2017 6:22 PM EST  
**To:** Hinson, Linda <LHinson@coj.net>  
**Subject:** A. Mutzabaugh CMT Tweeted: Not the typical morning commute...

# Your Highlights

**A. Mutzabaugh CM..**  
@WLV\_investor

Not the typical morning commute... [pic.twitter.com/kJIOQeqsIK](https://pic.twitter.com/kJIOQeqsIK)

7.4K

190K


320K

**Dan Elkin..**  
@RevElkins

I had a great time volunteering @GRASPAcademy today. If you haven't thought about it, sign up w/ @DuvalSchools to be a volunteer at a Elementary, MS or HS. We can all make a difference in a child's life!

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3

**FreedomWorks**   
@FreedomWorks

Obama was keeping it classy in Chicago. \*snark\* @TPInsidr

**Obama Compares President Trump to Hitler at Economic Speech - The Political Insider**  
Former President Obama took a not-so-veiled swipe at the current administration by comparing ... [more](#)  
thepoliticalinsider.com

14

7


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**Joe V**  
@Joe\_V\_

The baby is here.

6

30

**TheBlaze**   
@theblaze


Trump officially recognizes Jerusalem as the capital of Israel

**Trump officially recognizes Jerusalem as the capital of Israel**  
President Donald Trump on Wednesday ...  
theblaze.com

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**Heritage Foundation**   
@Heritage

Spending limits are a critical fiscal tool to encourage budgetary discipline.

**Strengthen the Budget Control Act, Don't Abandon It | The Heritage Foundation**

The Budget Control Act of 2011 (BCA) placed caps on discretionary spending from 2012–2021. It... [more](#)  
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We sent this email to @LhinsonLinda

Twitter, Inc. 1355 Market Street, Suite 900 San Francisco, CA 94103

**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 10, 2018 8:41 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin: Congress and Trump send \$380 million to States for Elections; Unhappiness over Redistricting Litigation

**Congress and the President send \$380 million in new Help America Vote federal money to assist states in the administration of secure elections and find out why, after seven years of endless litigation, everyone is “unhappy” with the courts in the Texas redistricting fight. Find out more about what is happening on the state and federal level in the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).**

## **LEAD**

### **Elections Assistance Commission announces \$380 million in new Help America Vote Act funding**

As part of the omnibus spending law passed on March 23, all 50 states, the District of Columbia and four U.S. territories are getting funding to improve their elections infrastructure prior to the 2018 elections. On March 29, the Elections Assistance Commission announced how the \$380 million will be distributed.

An extension of the 2002 Help America Vote Act that distributed funds to states to improve voting systems and voter access issues identified following the 2000 election, the 2018 HAVA Election Security Fund will give states additional resources to secure and improve their election systems.

## **FEDERAL**

### **CBS: The DHS "war room" on Election Day 2016**

When the Obama administration learned of the Russian cyberattack, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officials thought it was unlikely the Russians were attempting to tamper with voting machines since they are not connected to the internet and there are tens of thousands of them dispersed throughout the country. So the agency focused its response on helping states identify vulnerabilities in their election IT systems, and providing them advice on how to shore up cyber defenses.

### **Reuters: Arizona election database targeted in 2016 by criminals, not Russia: source**

A hack on an Arizona election database during the 2016 U.S. presidential campaign was carried out by suspected criminal actors and not the Russian government, a senior Trump administration official told Reuters on Sunday.

### **How ranked-choice voting effort became a partisan flash point**

How did a reform effort that seeks to reduce political polarization and vitriol in Maine become another partisan flash point, creating an impasse that threatens to plunge the crucial June 12 primary election into chaos and legal acrimony? With four Republicans and seven Democrats running for governor, the system will likely come into play for both parties, yet a last-minute attempt to provide funds to implement it properly failed Thursday on a largely party-line vote.

### **My Turn: Hans von Spakovsky: Facebook's troubling 'favors' for Obama**

Controversy continues to swirl around how the consulting firm Cambridge Analytica obtained personal data from more than 50 million Facebook users without their knowledge and used it to target ads to individuals in an effort to help Donald Trump get elected president in 2016. But a more serious case of apparent misconduct involves Facebook data going to a different presidential campaign — this time in 2012. In this case, which is getting far less attention, Facebook reportedly voluntarily provided data on millions of its users to the reelection campaign of President Barack Obama.

### **Vox: Why it's perfectly fine to ask about citizenship status on the census**

At the end of the day, asking about citizenship poses no serious threat to the census and will produce valuable information well worth collecting. The administration has asserted that the question appeared on “every census since 1965,” until 2010 when it was taken out by those ne’er-do-wells in the Obama administration. The Hill declared that claim false, although it turns out the administration’s claim was

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basically correct. Various citizenship questions have been integral parts of the federally administered mail-and-door-knocking decennial census in 1820, 1830, 1870, 1890 to 1950, and 1980 to 2000.

## STATES

### Arkansas: Still no ruling on Voter ID case

Secretary of State Martin filed a motion with the state Supreme Court last week requesting that Gray be forced to make a ruling in the case "well in advance of April 6, 2018." The Supreme Court unanimously rejected the request without comment. Friday, April 6, was the deadline for the Secretary of State to deliver ballots to military voters out of jurisdiction and overseas citizens voting by absentee ballot.

### Florida: Florida appeals ruling that state's ex-felon voting ban is illegally enforced

Florida Gov. Rick Scott's administration has appealed a federal judge's bombshell ruling that his state's system for restoring ex-felons' voting rights is unconstitutionally enforced. The move sets up a potentially lengthy legal battle, which means many of the state's approximately 1.5 million disenfranchised ex-cons likely will remain ineligible to vote in the upcoming 2018 elections.

### Nebraska: For eighth year, voter ID amendment filibustered to defeat in Legislature

Another year, another frustration for backers of requiring voter identification in Nebraska. State lawmakers fell short of cutting off debate and advancing a proposed voter ID constitutional amendment. The vote marks the eighth year in a row that voter ID legislation has been blocked. State Sen. John Murante of Gretna, who introduced Legislative Resolution 1CA, said he is exploring the possibility of going directly to voters via an initiative petition drive. "This is not the end of the discussion," he said. "There will come a day when the issue is taken out of the hands of legislators."

### Nebraska: Voter I.D. bill stalls in legislature

A proposed ballot measure that would require Nebraska voters to show identification at the polls has stalled in the Legislature. Nebraska Senators voted 24-18 to force an end to legislative debate on the issue, nine short of what supporters needed (to end the filibuster). The measure's sponsor, Sen. John Murante, of Gretna, says lawmakers were too divided to hold a civil conversation and compromise on the issue.

### North Dakota: Citing Native Americans' 'cherished right' to vote, federal judge orders changes to ND voter ID law

An attorney challenging North Dakota's voter ID law welcomed a federal judge's ruling that expands Native Americans' options at the polls but eliminates voter affidavits. U.S. District Court Judge Daniel Hovland's order came almost two months before the statewide primary election, a rapidly approaching event that prompted the state to ask for an expedited review of the case. While declining to invalidate all of the new law, Hovland imposed several restrictions on it.

## REDISTRICTING

### Seven years later: Why everyone is mad in the Texas redistricting fight

Everyone in the Texas redistricting fight is pissed off. ... But seven years into legal wrangling over Texas lawmakers' efforts to redraw the state's maps, the punchy legal briefs have already served to crystallize the frustration surrounding the prolonged — and convoluted — litigation. "There are few things a legislature can do to avoid protracted litigation over its redistricting legislation," state attorneys wrote in the opening lines of their brief. "But if the nearly inevitable litigation comes to pass, one would have thought there was one reasonably safe course available to bring it to an end — namely, enacting the three-judge court's remedial redistricting plan as the legislature's own. Think again."

The American Civil Rights Union

3213 Duke St., #625  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
<http://www.theacru.org>

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<http://www.votingintegrityinstitute.org>

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Monday, May 21, 2018 8:39 PM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin: Iowa Rolls Out Voter ID and New Hampshire Supreme Court Reviews Residency Requirements for Voters

**Iowa rolls out voter ID, New Hampshire seeks the opinion of the state Supreme Court on residency laws and Pennsylvania Democrats have received a redistricting bonanza. Read more at the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#)**

## LEAD

### **Iowa voters will be asked for ID as new law gets soft rollout**

Iowans who vote in the state's June 5 primary election will be asked at the polls to show identification. The new law was approved in 2017 by then-Gov. Terry Branstad and the Republican-led Iowa Legislature after a partisan debate. Supporters said the law was needed to protect the integrity of the state's elections and modernize its election system.

## FEDERAL

### **National Review: Elizabeth Warren Is Gravely Concerned about . . . the Electoral College**

At a shindig at the Center for American Progress, Senator Elizabeth Warren (D., Mass.) has reportedly voiced her grave concerns (one gets the sense that she has no other flavor of concern) about the fact that Hillary Clinton won the popular vote but still lost the election because of the Electoral College. Warren's complaint is squarely in the progressive tradition of finding any impediment to their political success illegitimate, troubling, or suspect. When you're sure you and your allies are the chosen protagonists of the Right Side of History, anything that stands in your way must be not just inconvenient but a bastion of villainy or backwardness.

### **Thanks to ranked-choice voting, expect a spike in spoiled ballots**

Advocates of ranked-choice voting (RCV) commonly claim that their preferred method of deciding elections boosts civic engagement, channels the true will of the people and strengthens our democracy.

But for all the empty rhetoric, RCV may actually have significant voter-suppression effects.

During municipal RCV elections in Minneapolis, MN, in 2009, "10.5 percent of the votes cast...were spoiled ballots or contained voter errors. And a higher incidence of spoiled ballots and voter error occurred in low-income, high-minority population areas, not affluent, predominantly white voting precincts." For comparison, generally about 1 percent of votes cast in plurality elections are invalid.

## STATES

### **Florida: Circuit Judge Says Ballots Were Illegally Destroyed In Debbie Wasserman Schultz House Race**

Florida circuit court Judge Raag Singhal ruled the Broward County Supervisor of Elections Office violated state and federal law Friday, after the office destroyed ballots from a 2016 House race for Democratic Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz's seat.

### **Iowa: Iowa changes voting law to allow electronic proof of residence**

A change in Iowa's voting laws will allow electronic proof of residence to be presented on Election Day, a move state Secretary of State Paul Pate said would benefit college students. The new law, which goes into effect immediately, allows proof of residence to be provided in an electronic format, such as on a cell phone" Pate told a crowd of about 30 people Thursday afternoon in Dallas County. The provision was contained in a legislative bill signed into law Wednesday by Gov. Kim Reynolds. Most Iowans receive these documents in electronic form already, so this is a natural progression to keep pace with technology while maintaining the integrity of the vote," Pate said in a statement provided to reporters before the meeting. "I want every eligible Iowan to participate in our elections, and this is just one more way that we're

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making it easy to vote, but hard to cheat."

### **Maine: Secretary of State to hold tutorial meetings on ranked-choice voting**

Maine Secretary of State Matt Dunlap is going to host a series of informational meetings on the new voting system that'll be used for the first time in June primaries.

### **New Hampshire: Executive Council votes to send questions on voting residency bill to Supreme Court**

Gov. Chris Sununu said Wednesday that if the state Supreme Court finds a controversial voter residency requirement bill constitutional following a review that he is requesting, "I think it would be hard not to sign it."

### **New Hampshire: Court is key in voting debate**

The state Supreme Court is now Ground Zero in the political and ideological battle over election law in New Hampshire, as two voting-related bills are now before the five justices. All stakeholders in the voting rights debate have acknowledged for the past two years that various bills under consideration would end up in court, just not so soon. Gov. Chris Sununu wants an advisory opinion from the court as to the constitutionality of HB 1264, which passed the House and Senate and will land on his desk. The bill creates a common definition for residency and domicile, and sets the stage for a new residency requirement on transient voters like college students.

### **New Hampshire: Gov. Sununu, Please Protect N.H. Residents' Voting Rights**

It is not much to ask that New Hampshire resident citizens only be eligible to elect New Hampshire leaders. Citizens in neighboring Massachusetts do not have this problem. Most don't. Requiring that one must be a resident of a state to register to vote there is not radical. It's not even rare. Browse through the location-specific instructions on the federal voter registration form provided by each state and witness how common it is to see the term "resident" with a durational requirement to boot.

### **Texas: Edinburg mayor responds to voter fraud accusations**

The Texas Rangers have partnered up with the Texas Attorney Generals Office to launch an investigation into the city of Edinburg's mayoral election from last November.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Pennsylvania's new congressional map a huge gift to Democrats**

Is Pennsylvania, a lynchpin of President Trump's victory in 2016, on the verge of evening the scales by tipping the House majority to the Democrats in 2018? The state could deliver a quarter of the 23 seats Democrats need to win control of the House, and it has little to do with the political environment working against the Republicans. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court jammed through a last minute, reverse gerrymander of the state's congressional districts, driving this unexpected opportunity.

### **Utah: Redistricting initiative will be on November ballot**

Utah voters will decide in November whether they want an independent commission in charge of redrawing the state's political boundaries, backers of a ballot initiative on the topic said Wednesday.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 05, 2018 9:53 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACURU Election Integrity Bulletin: Public Opinion Polling on Illegal Voting in 2016 and New Hampshire Litigation over Voter Residency Requirements

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The week's ACURU [Election Integrity Bulletin](#) highlights recent public opinion polling on illegal voting in 2016, the high stakes litigation in New Hampshire on the required residency of voters and the unvarnished truth on redistricting. Read a summary of election news across the country all in one place.

## FEDERAL

### AOL: Almost half of Republicans believe millions voted illegally in the 2016 election

Forty-eight percent of Republicans said they believe between 3 million and 5 million people voted illegally in 2016, while 17 percent said they do not, according to a new HuffPost/YouGov poll. Another 35 percent of the GOP said they were unsure. Just under one-quarter of Democrats said they believed the allegations that millions of votes were cast illegally, while 51 percent said they didn't and 26 percent said they were unsure.

### Real Clear Politics: Popular Vote Plan Would Do More Harm Than Good

Since Donald Trump won the 2016 presidential election with a majority in the Electoral College but only a minority of the popular vote, ideas for somehow reforming the presidential election system have received a lot of attention. One of the most successful of these is a plan—already adopted by the legislatures of 11 states (with 165 electoral votes)—to award all the electoral votes of these states to the winner of the national popular vote.

### Washington Times: Twitter unveils 'election labels' to designate campaign accounts of midterm candidates

Twitter will designate the official campaign accounts of candidates running for office in the 2018 midterm elections with a special label, the social media platform announced Wednesday. Starting May 30, Twitter said it will let candidates vying for state governor or for the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives earmark their campaign accounts with "election labels".

## STATES

### Florida: Rick Scott overrules elections chief, directs Florida to seek cyber-security money

Gov. Rick Scott on Wednesday directed the state's chief elections official to seek \$19.2 million in federal money to help counties protect against possible cyber-security attacks in the 2018 election.

### Florida: Judge's ruling that ballots were illegally destroyed continues Broward election woes

Florida's Secretary of State plans to send an elections expert to the state's second-largest county during the upcoming elections to "ensure that all laws are followed," after a judge ruled that the Broward Supervisor of Elections illegally destroyed ballots cast in a 2016 congressional race.

### Iowa: Iowa Secretary of State announces record number of absentee ballot requests

Data released today by Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate shows a record number of Iowans voting by absentee ballot for the June 5 primary elections. As of Thursday afternoon, 46,087 Iowans had requested an absentee ballot. That is more than any primary election in state history. The new total surpasses the 2016 mark of 44,016 and the 2014 number of 44,740.

### New Hampshire: Court hears from 10 parties on NH voting domicile bill

Ten individuals or groups have weighed in as the New Hampshire Supreme Court decides whether to consider the constitutionality of ending the state's distinction between full-fledged residents and those who claim the state as their domicile in order to vote. Current law allows college students and others who say they are domiciled in New Hampshire to vote without being official residents subject to residency requirements, such as getting a New Hampshire driver's license or registering a vehicle. The Legislature sent Republican Gov. Chris Sununu a bill last week.

### **New Hampshire: Database flags 142 possible voter fraud cases in NH**

After the 2016 general election, the system flagged 94,610 New Hampshire voters whose first and last names and dates of birth matched those in other states. That amounts to about one in nine voters, but officials eliminated all but 142 of the matches after taking a closer look at middle names and other information, including the marked checklists maintained by poll workers. Of the 142, officials have sent 51 to the attorney general's office for investigation, and are waiting for information from other states on the rest, Secretary of State Bill Gardner told the ballot law commission.

### **New York: 800 Absentee Ballots Not Delivered to Board of Elections for 2017 Vote**

In April, the New York City Board of Elections received a late delivery of 1,077 pieces of mail from the United States Postal Service, including what turned out to be 828 absentee ballots cast in the 2017 municipal elections. Of those, the BOE found 533 valid absentee ballots never counted. The postal service's failure was "egregious," BOE Executive Director Michael Ryan said at a public meeting of the board's commissioners on Tuesday.

### **Texas: Texas AG Continues Crusade Against Voter Fraud**

Texas state law enforcement officers arrested Laura Janeth Garza and booked her into the Montgomery County Jail in Conroe, an hour north of Houston, where she is being held on \$75,000 bonds for each of two charges of illegal voting.

### **Texas: Fifth Person Charged in Edinburg Voter Fraud Investigation**

A fifth person arrested in an Edinburg voter fraud investigation is now officially charged. 33-year-old Francisco Tamez Jr. is charged with two counts of illegal voting. Bond was set at \$100,000.

### **Wisconsin: Appeals court yet to rule on Wisconsin voter ID and other election laws after 16 months**

More than a year after hearing arguments, a federal appeals court has yet to rule on a host of Wisconsin voting laws, including aspects of the state's voter ID statute. The long delay has left some scratching their heads and raised questions about whether the court will act before this year's elections, including the fast-approaching Aug. 14 primary.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **National Review: The Truth about Gerrymandering**

Both parties have always treated the process of drawing congressional districts — mandated every ten years by the Census results — as an opportunity to increase their odds of winning while harming their opponents' chances. However, the sophisticated nature of current computer-driven efforts isn't what has enabled Republicans to weaponize the process in recent years. Rather it is the that the Supreme Court ruling in *Thornburg v. Gingles* resulted in Democrats' most reliable voting group being drained out of competitive districts.

### **Washingtonian: Political Insiders Plotted the Most Gerrymandered District in America—and Left a Paper Trail**

The battle over Maryland's 6th is different than other gerrymanders—and not just because Democrats are the culprits. The pols who rigged this district left behind a massive paper trail that lays out exactly how it all happened, an operation so fine-grained that mapmakers parked a district line less than a block from a candidate's house.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 17, 2018 10:15 AM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin: Supreme Court hears case on Ohio's Voter Maintenance Program, Alabama Voter ID upheld

The Supreme Court hears legal argument over Ohio's program to maintain accurate voter rolls and the Alabama Voter ID law is upheld by a federal court. Read more in the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#). To read past issues, please visit the Voting Integrity Institute [website](#).

## LEAD

### Supreme Court Mulls Ohio's Voter Purge Program, With Future Elections In Balance

The Supreme Court hinted it may allow states more flexibility to remove registered voters from state rolls during a lively argument. A majority of the Court appeared ready to sanction Ohio's voter purge program.

## FEDERAL

### USA Today: Hostility to Census question is overblown

By asking the Census Bureau to provide a question on citizenship, the Trump administration is simply trying to get accurate information on the American population. It's not new; previous Censuses have asked this question. Hostility to this limited reform is overblown, though unfortunately to be expected.

### Judge ends consent decree limiting RNC 'ballot security' activities

After more than three decades, Republicans are free of a federal court consent decree that sharply limited the Republican National Committee's ability to challenge voters' qualifications and target the kind of fraud President Donald Trump has alleged affected the 2016 presidential race.

## STATES

### Alabama: Federal Judge Tosses NAACP Lawsuit Challenging Alabama's Voter ID Law

A federal judge has dismissed a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of Alabama's voter identification law.

### Iowa: Secretary of State Paul Pate Reminds Iowans of New Voter ID Law

Secretary of State Paul Pate says the time for arguing the politics of a voter ID law are over and its time for Iowans to make sure they're ready for the changes.

### Minnesota: Man admits voter fraud crime

53-year-old Jeffery John Spanier pleaded guilty to registration of an ineligible voter, a felony, and sentenced to four years' probation.

### North Carolina: Durham elections worker pleads guilty to altering vote counts in 2016 primary

A former Durham County elections worker has pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor related to the mishandling of provisional ballot results during the March 2016 primary election.

## REDISTRICTING

### Supreme Court takes up fight over Texas electoral districts

The high court in September put both lower court rulings that had invalidated the Republican-drawn districts on hold. The justices were divided 5-4, with the five conservatives backing the Texas Republicans and the four liberals dissenting, suggesting they could be similarly divided when they eventually rule on the merits of the case.

### North Carolina: Judges Strike Down Congressional Maps

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Federal judges have ruled that North Carolina's congressional district map drawn by legislative Republicans is illegally gerrymandered because of excessive partisanship.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 19, 2018 11:36 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin: The Supreme Court Bounces Wisconsin Redistricting Case; Rasmussen Poll finds Voter Fraud Still a Problem With Voters

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**A busy week in election integrity. The Supreme Court dismisses lawsuit to overturn Wisconsin district lines; Rasmussen Poll finds voters still see voter fraud as a problem; and Holder's group files three redistricting lawsuits to gain more Democratic leaning seats. Read more in the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#)**

### **The Supreme Court sidesteps consideration of partisan gerrymandering in Wisconsin, Maryland redistricting cases**

The Supreme Court on Monday took a pass on deciding the limits of partisan gerrymandering – or efforts by state legislatures to create voting maps most favorable to one political party. The justices dismissed separate lawsuits from Democratic Wisconsin voters and Republican Maryland voters, who challenged the congressional maps drawn by their legislatures. Read [more](#)

## **FEDERAL**

### **Supreme Court to Minnesota: First Amendment Rights Don't End at the Polling Booth**

With just two weeks to go until the end of its term, the Supreme Court ruled 7-2 in *Minnesota Voters Alliance v. Mansky* that Minnesota's ban on so-called "political" apparel at the polls on Election Day violates the First Amendment. [Read more](#)

### **ACRU proudly filed an amicus brief in this case protecting the rights of voters**

In its brief in *Minnesota Voters Alliance, et al. v. Joe Mansky, et al.*, the American Civil Rights Union argued that restrictions on messaging at polling places have been overly broad and that a Minnesota-based case deserves rehearing to resolve conflicting court rulings. [Read more](#)

### **Rasmussen Reports: Voters Still See Voter Fraud As A Problem**

A new Rasmussen Reports national telephone and online survey finds that 44% of Likely U.S. Voters think it's more common that people are allowed to vote who are not eligible to vote. Just 36% think, more often, people are prevented from voting who should be allowed to vote. Read [more](#)

### **New Yorker: The A.C.L.U. Is Getting Involved in Elections—and Reinventing Itself for the Trump Era**

For the first time in its history, the A.C.L.U. is taking an active role in elections. The group has plans to spend more than twenty-five million dollars on races and ballot initiatives by Election Day, in November. [Read more](#)

### **Townhall: Supreme Court Backs Accurate Voter Rolls and Honest Elections**

Democrats have long relied on inaccurate election rolls to aid their candidates. They want to count every vote, legal or not. So, after Ohio's government cleaned up its registration lists it was hit with the usual claims of left-wing bias. Now the Supreme Court has ruled for the state. [Read more](#)

## **STATES**

### **Florida: Group to flood Florida with voter registration forms**

More than 380,000 people in Florida will be receiving voter registration forms in the mail from a group seeking to increase participation from women, minorities and youth. "Unfortunately, and historically, the VPC and CVI pull information for their mailings from various unverified sources," Scott said. "Previous mailings have resulted in voter registration applications being sent to deceased persons, minor children



and even pets. Mailings have also been sent to registered voters, which creates unnecessary confusion and concern." [Read more](#)

### **Maine: With the first ranked-choice election, LePage says he ‘probably’ won’t certify results**

As Mainers headed to the polls for primary voting Tuesday morning, Gov. Paul LePage announced he may not certify the results. LePage, in an interview with WCSH-TV, called the voting system “the most horrific thing in the world” and said he “probably” won’t certify the results and instead will “leave it up to the courts to decide.” [Read more](#)

### **Missouri: Voter ID law faces legal challenge from national progressive group**

A national progressive organization filed a lawsuit Wednesday against Missouri’s voter ID law on behalf of a 70-year-old Jackson County woman. The suit was filed in Cole County by Priorities USA, a Democratic-aligned group that advocates for voting rights and works to identify “opportunities for progressives to stand up to the Republican agenda,” according to its website.

### **North Carolina: GOP lawmakers introduce voter ID amendment**

House Speaker Tim Moore filed a constitutional amendment requiring photo identification to vote in North Carolina elections, one that the state’s voters will decide in a voter referendum. [Read more](#)

### **North Carolina: Results of SurveyUSA News Poll/Civitas Institute on Voter ID**

Would you support or oppose this Voter ID amendment? Results: 69% Support, 24% Oppose. A majority of Black Americans (45%-44%) support voter ID amendment in North Carolina. [Read more](#)

### **Texas: Texas Democrat Pins Primary Loss on ‘Voter Fraud’**

A South Texas Democrat candidate, who lost by six votes in a recent primary runoff, is contesting the race results against the Democrat winner, claiming “irregularities, misconduct, and fraud” impacted the outcome of the election. [Read more](#)

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Holder redistricting group backs lawsuits for 3 additional majority-black congressional districts**

A group backed by former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder is fighting for additional majority-black congressional districts in Alabama, Georgia and Louisiana according to three new lawsuits filed. [Read more](#)

### **Daily Signal: Census Bureau Has Been Co-Opted by Leftist Ideologues**

“Are you an American or not?” It’s a simple question, one that every U.S. census should include, especially when the survey already contains nonsensical and intrusive inquiries into one’s ethnic DNA composition and whether one co-habits with someone of the opposite sex or one’s own. [Read more](#)

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 09, 2018 9:14 AM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin: Trump Disbands Election Integrity Commission and Pushes Voter ID

**President Trump disbands the Presidential Commission on Election Integrity and pushes the need for Voter ID laws. A number of state voter ID laws go into effect in 2018. Read more in the [ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin](#)**

## **LEAD**

### **Thielen: End of voter fraud commission is a win for the left, but a loss for America**

Democrats have “resisted” the bipartisan efforts, in the fine tradition of the last two presidential election commissions, to study and propose solutions to fix our elections.

## **FEDERAL**

### **Voter Fraud Commission ‘Being Handed Off’ to DHS, Will No Longer Be ‘Stonewalled’ by Dems**

Kansas Secretary of State and gubernatorial candidate Kris Kobach says the Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity will be “handed off” to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to “more effectively” investigate voter fraud without being “stonewalled” by Democrats.

### **Trump pushes need for voter ID laws after dissolving commission on voter integrity**

President Trump pushed Americans on Thursday to demand ID at the polls as the solution to voter fraud, a day after dissolving his election integrity commission

### **DOJ calling for citizenship question to be put in 2020 Census: Report**

The Justice Department is advocating for the inclusion of a question about citizenship in the 2020 Census, according to a report.

## **STATES**

### **Iowa: Voter ID Law Now in Effect**

A new law in Iowa goes into effect on Monday. Voters will now need to show an ID at the polls. A driver's license, military ID, veteran ID, and college ID is acceptable as long as it includes a photo and an expiration date

### **Maine: Gov. LePage renews call for Maine voter [ID laws](#)**

Republican Gov. Paul LePage again urged the Maine Legislature to pass new voter identification laws. “It is not a hardship to require an ID for voting,” LePage said in his weekly radio address, which was released Friday.

### **Missouri: Secretary of State Ashcroft Wins Dismissal of ACLU’s Voter ID Lawsuit**

The Cole County Circuit Court handed the people of Missouri a victory in the months-long voter ID lawsuit filed by the ACLU on behalf of the NAACP and League of Women Voters.

### **New Hampshire: N.H. Senate Passes Bill to Redefine ‘Residency’ for Voting**

The latest version of HB372 says that to be considered a resident, for voting or otherwise, someone needs to demonstrate an intent to stay in New Hampshire through all of their actions — they can't just say they plan to be here “for the indefinite future.”

### **Texas: New Texas Laws For 2018 include Voter ID.**

Mike Ward, Austin bureau chief for the Houston Chronicle says every voter ID law the legislature has tried to pass has ended up in court, and the new law is likely to end up there, as well.

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## REDISTRICTING

### Daily Signal: Eliminating Partisan Redistricting Will Make Politics Worse, Not Better

You can't take politics out of politics. In different words, that's what James Madison, the Father of the Constitution, expressed when he wrote Federalist No. 10. Instead of eliminating partisan interests, he called for a constitutional system that would pit ambition against ambition to prevent tyranny, rather than trying to extinguish parties or "factions" altogether.

### North Carolina: Judges hear arguments on 'special master's' redistricting maps

The special master in North Carolina's racial gerrymandering case disputed claims that his proposal to fix problematic election districts in Greensboro and elsewhere relies on preset quotas for black voters.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 24, 2018 10:44 AM EDT  
**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>  
**Subject:** ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin: DHS and WH enter Election Security Debate

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[Homeland Security](#) and [the White House](#) respond to the election security debate – [Voter confidence level](#) of Democrats lower than Republicans. An [elections data study](#) reveals what Wisconsin voters should be concerned about, and it's not voter ID. Read more in the weekly [Election Integrity Bulletin](#) and visit the [Voting Integrity Institute](#) for more analysis.

## LEAD

### Time: DHS Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen Says Russia Isn't Targeting Midterms Like 2016

The U.S. homeland security secretary said on Saturday there are no signs that Russia is targeting this year's midterm elections with the same "scale or scope" it targeted the 2016 presidential election. Nielsen said her agency will help state and local election officials prepare their systems for cyberattacks from Russia or elsewhere

### White House Press Release: President Donald J. Trump is Protecting Our Elections and Standing Up to Russia's Malign Activities

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has taken the lead in working with all 50 states, local governments, and private companies to improve election security and integrity. In March of 2018, Congress provided the Election Assistance Commission with \$380 million in funding for election assistance grants to States.

## FEDERAL

### The Hill (J. Christian Adams): We need to keep both Russia and Washington out of state elections

State control over elections free from federal meddling, and having localities within those states conduct the elections, makes it difficult to manipulate outcomes or usurp authority. Some want to change our presumption of local control. As usual in Washington, money is sweetening the pot. Federal dollars devoted to "critical infrastructure" have produced the familiar buzz of contractors swarming to a honey pot of cash. Bureaucrats at the Department of Homeland Security, eager to increase their own job security, have risen to the occasion in classic Washington style, seeking to "fix" a problem that does not exist.

### University of Virginia: Only half of Americans believe elections are fair and open, UVA poll

As America turns its attention to the upcoming midterm elections, a new national poll from the University of Virginia's Center for Politics shows that only about half of American adults surveyed believe U.S. elections are fair and open. The poll was conducted in partnership with research organization Ipsos. The Ipsos poll, which surveyed more than 1,000 American adults on July 5 and 6, found 51 percent of the respondents agreed with the statement that "American elections are fair and open." Agreement was higher among Republican respondents – 68 percent agreed – than Democrats (43 percent).

## STATES

### Alabama: Voter fraud investigations underway in 2 AL counties

Alabama Secretary of State John Merrill confirmed that voter fraud investigations are underway in Wilcox and Perry Counties.

### Alabama: Secretary of State: Human error responsible for John Knight voting snafu

An investigation by the secretary of state's office concluded that human error is to blame after at least 22 Montgomery County voters — including Rep. John Knight (D - Montgomery) — found themselves listed

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under the wrong party at the polls Tuesday, Secretary of State John Merrill said.

### **California: Citizenship Is No Longer Required to Vote in San Francisco School Board Elections**

Noncitizens can vote in San Francisco's Board of Education elections after the city's Department of Elections ruled Monday to do away with citizenship requirements. Noncitizens seeking to vote in San Francisco's Board of Education elections must be at least 18 years old and residents of the city, CBS SF Bay area reported Monday. The new requirement comes after San Francisco voters passed local Proposition N, allowing noncitizens to vote in education elections.

### **Oregon: Oregon Voters to Decide 'Sanctuary State' Status in November**

Voters in Oregon will have the opportunity this November to decide the future of a decades-old sanctuary state law. The Oregon secretary of state's office on Tuesday qualified an initiative for the 2018 election ballot that would repeal a 1987 law that limits the "use of state [and] local law enforcement resources to enforce federal immigration laws," according to *The Oregonian*.

### **Minnesota: Voter records tussle headed to higher court**

A legal battle over Minnesota voting records will head to higher court. Ramsey County District Judge Jennifer Frisch, who previously ordered Secretary of State Steve Simon to turn over the voter records to a nonprofit political group, agreed to stay her own ruling to give Simon a chance to appeal it. The Minnesota Voters Alliance asked for the voting records, in hopes of proving a theory that thousands of ineligible voters register on Election Day and then vote before their identity and eligibility is verified. If their eligibility is challenged after the fact, their vote has already counted.

### **Tennessee: Prosecutor rules no criminal charges in Williamson voter fraud case**

A special prosecutor said this week there was no case to file criminal charges against two Williamson County candidates running for office. In late April, the Williamson County Election Commission sent forward allegations of voter fraud against House District 63 candidate Bill Peach and county commission candidate Anne McGraw.

### **Texas: AG Opens Another Voter Fraud Investigation in Rio Grande Valley**

The Office of the Texas Attorney General is investigating a voter fraud complaint which allegedly occurred during a recent water utility company board election in the Rio Grande Valley.

### **Texas: Texas Border City Mayor Blames Election Loss on 'Voter Fraud'**

The longstanding former mayor of a Texas border city contends that voter fraud and bribery cost him another term in a June runoff race. Now, he is suing his opponent and asking the Hidalgo County District Court for a new election. The ousted mayor accused O'Caña and his campaign team of harvesting mail-in ballots, "illegal voting," and bribing voters in a petition filed Wednesday.

### **Wisconsin: Elections Data Reveals What Wisconsin Voters Should Be Concerned About, and It's Not Voter ID**

In the city of Milwaukee there were 44,797 same-day registrations, and 2,563 postcards bounced back. That's nearly 6 percent of all same-day registrants' addresses that were wrong when the person cast their ballot. Elections Commission data reported by the MacIver Institute raises serious, real-world questions about the integrity of same-day voter registrations. The way many Wisconsin localities, particularly Milwaukee and Madison, handled a mountain of same-day voter registration irregularities is a legitimate concern.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Michigan Radio: Attorney General Schuette talks Trump endorsement and gerrymandering case**

"Voters do have their say on elections and state reps, state Senate, members of Congress, and governor, what have you. Voters do have their say. What Michigan has done in terms of redistricting is follow strict standards that have been vetted and approved by the courts over the span of time. This issue is about the constitutionality of how you amend Michigan's constitution, and the fact is, this is a wholesale approach.

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It's almost a massive rewriting of Michigan's constitution that can only be, according to Michigan's constitution, by a convention."

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 08, 2018 8:44 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin: DNA and Fingerprints Snare Illegal Voter; Trump hosts WH Meeting on Election Security

**Florida Investigators use DNA and Fingerprints to arrest man who committed mail ballot fraud; President Trump meets with his Cabinet to ensure election security; Texas wins Voter ID battle at the Fifth Circuit – Read and Share the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).**

## LEAD

### Florida: Police use saliva to arrest Casselberry man on voter-fraud charges

State and local investigators said they used fingerprints and DNA from saliva found on five mail-in ballots to track down a Casselberry man and charge him with voter fraud. Enforcement and the Seminole County Sheriff's Office lifted DNA evidence from the portion of the envelopes that are sealed with saliva, according to a police report. Investigators also were able to match the fingerprints on the envelopes with Warren's fingerprints in a federal registry, police said. An FDLE laboratory report indicated that the DNA on the envelopes matched Warren's, according to the police report.

## FEDERAL

### The Hill: Trump meets with Cabinet officials on election security

President Trump met with members of his administration, including leaders of the FBI and Department of Homeland Security, on Thursday to discuss election security, the White House said Friday. The meeting comes amid widespread concerns over the possibility of foreign interference in future elections, including this year's midterms, following Russia's hacking and disinformation effort against the 2016 vote. Congress sent \$380 million to states to upgrade and secure their voting technology as part of a massive spending package approved in March. Nielsen and others have advocated for states to replace paperless voting machines with those that produce a paper backup to ensure confidence in the vote.

### National Review: Texas Wins Dogged Fight for Voter ID

Last week, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals gave a big boost to election-integrity efforts in Texas and throughout the nation. In a 2–1 opinion authored by Judge Edith Jones, the court upheld Texas's revised voter-ID law, SB 5, against claims of racial discrimination. The ruling was the latest development in a years-long struggle by Texas lawmakers.

### Connecticut OKs Measure to Join Effort to Bypass Electoral College

If Democratic Gov. Dannel Malloy signs the legislation, as expected, Connecticut would become the eleventh state, plus the District of Columbia, to adopt the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact, and the first since the 2016 election. The compact, which currently includes states with a total of 172 electoral votes, would in theory take effect once it includes states representing a total of at least 270 electoral votes, which is the number needed to win the presidency.

### National Review: Keep the Electoral College, Because States Matter

Donald Trump unexpectedly joined his voice to the myriad of Democrats calling for the abolition of the Electoral College. That statement came as a surprise to many, given that it was the Electoral College that gave him a 304–227 electoral-vote victory over his Democratic rival, Hillary Clinton, in the 2016 presidential election, even though Clinton had won the popular vote by almost 3 million.

## STATES

### Arkansas: Arkansas Supreme Court says state can enforce voter ID law

Arkansas' highest court on Wednesday said the state can enforce a voter ID law in the May 22 primary election despite a judge declaring the measure unconstitutional. By a vote of 6-1 the Supreme Court put on hold a Pulaski County judge's decision blocking the law's enforcement. Early voting for the primary begins

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Monday.

### **Florida: Investigators: Florida man stole, forged absentee ballots in 2016**

A 36-year-old man has been arrested in connection to a 2016 voter fraud case in which police say mail ballots were stolen and forged. According to an Altamonte Springs Police report, several homeowners on Spring Valley Lane in October 2016 reported to authorities that their absentee ballots had been stolen from their mailboxes.

### **Florida: He wanted to be Tampa's mayor. Now he faces a voter fraud investigation**

Michael Hazard wanted to be Tampa's mayor. Now, he faces possible charges of illegal voting.

Hazard's long-shot run for mayor of the state's third-largest city recently came to an end when county election officials ruled he is unqualified to vote let alone seek office. "

### **Iowa: State sets new voter ID requirements**

Beginning in 2018, the new State of Iowa Voter ID law will be taking effect. The primary election is June 5, which is the first election in Plymouth County this calendar year and the first election in which the new voter ID requirements will be in effect. Voters are asked to remember that all absentee ballot request forms require either a valid Iowa Driver's License number, Non-operator ID number or a 4-digit PIN number found on their new Voter Identification card in order for an absentee ballot to be issued to a voter

### **Michigan: Gov. Snyder signs legislation to improve election processes, reduce voter fraud**

House Bill 5646, sponsored by state Rep. Julie Calley, requires the Secretary of State to check the statewide qualified voter file against the U.S. Social Security Administration's death master file on a monthly basis. The bill also requires the Secretary to participate in a multi-state crosscheck system to potentially identify voters registered in more than one state.

### **Wisconsin: Two Waterford residents charged with voter fraud**

Two Waterford residents have been charged with voter fraud in the April 4, 2017, election.

James K. Denig, 56, and Kay E. Denig, 60, are each charged with one count of election fraud for registering in more than one place and one count of election fraud for voting more than one time, all felonies.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Vox: The Ohio gerrymandering reform going for a statewide vote this week, explained**

A strange thing will happen during Tuesday's Ohio primary election: One of the most pro-Republican-gerrymandered states in the country will put an actual bipartisan deal to reform gerrymandering in front of its voters. Issue 1, or the Congressional Redistricting Procedures Amendment, will be up for a statewide vote, and its prospects look good.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Monday, March 05, 2018 4:14 PM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin: DOJ and Others Request Reinstatement of Citizenship Question to Census for Accurate Reapportionment

Contrary to an NBC News report, the Department of Homeland Security states there was "no intelligence" to support the assertion that Russia compromised state election systems prior to the 2016 election. DOJ and others want the Trump Commerce Department to reinstate the Citizenship Question on the Census for accurate reapportionment and redistricting. The Supreme Court hears a significant First Amendment case on what apparel with political messages can be worn in the polling place.

Read the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#) and share with a friend.

## LEAD

### Message to Trump: 'We Need to Know the Exact Number of Citizens in Our States' for 2020 Census

Kansas Secretary of State and gubernatorial candidate Kris Kobach has sent a letter urging President Trump's administration to put a question asking United States residents if they are citizens back on the 2020 Census

## FEDERAL

### DHS: 'No intelligence' Russia compromised seven states ahead of 2016 election

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is denying the accuracy of an NBC News report that alleged Russia breached voter sites or registration systems in seven U.S. states prior to the 2016 election.

### Why The Left Is Going Gonzo Over Asking Citizenship Status On The Census -The question affects the number of seats in the House of Representatives, and the number of presidential electors allocated to each state.

This is a question at the core of an emerging controversy over a seemingly trivial question the Department of Justice has urged the Census Bureau to reinstate on the 2020 Census: Are you a U.S. citizen? The census is essential to our political process because it provides a population count of citizens and noncitizens that drives apportionment of U.S. House seats, and by extension the number of presidential electors allocated to each state.

### Daily Signal: Progressive Activists Look to Courts to Undermine the Electoral College

Having failed to generate enough support to abolish the Electoral College through a constitutional amendment, the institution's detractors are now looking to the courts to upend it.

### The Supreme Court Should Restore the First Amendment in Minnesota

A Minnesota law banning political T-shirts at polling booths is prone to abuse — and violates the First Amendment.

## STATES

### Alaska: Alaskan Election Officials Question Reports of Russian Breach

Top elections official Josie Bahnke said that despite news reports that the state was one of seven compromised by Russian actors, there was no evidence that systems were accessed by an outside entity.

### Arkansas: Hearing set on voter ID law challenge; Mark Martin defends law

Circuit Judge Alice Gray has set a hearing March 12 on a lawsuit that asks that she enjoin use of the state's new voter ID law in the May primary elections.

## **Maine: Maine Governor Proposes Another Voter ID Bill**

Maine's Republican governor is again trying to require Mainers to present photo ID to vote. Gov. Paul LePage's latest voter ID bill would allow those who don't have a photo ID to cast a regular ballot with an affidavit. But after the November election, Mainers without a photo ID would only have their vote officially cast by presenting a photo ID within three business days. No hearing is set yet for the bill.

## **Pennsylvania: 100K non-citizens registered to vote in Pennsylvania?**

That question has come to the Keystone State in full force this year. As reported in the Washington Times, the Public Interest Legal Foundation (PILF) has filed suit in federal court in Harrisburg seeking to have the State of Pennsylvania turn over the numbers.

## **Wisconsin: Elections Commission Statement on NBC News story about election cyber security**

The Wisconsin Elections Commission has never detected a successful hacking attempt on its systems, nor has it ever been notified of one by the Department of Homeland Security or any other state or federal agency.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Nebraska: Bill would push noncitizens out of Nebraska redistricting**

A bill that would remove noncitizens from Nebraska's population total when redrawing legislative districts drew criticism during a hearing, where opponents questioned if it was discriminatory. Sen. John Murante of Gretna said Tuesday the measure enforces language in the state constitution that lawmakers have failed to follow.

### **Texas: A new super PAC is already working to protect Republicans' hold on Texas**

As Gov. Greg Abbott sounds the alarm about Democratic efforts to influence the post-2020 redistricting process, he is being backed up by a new super PAC led by a key ally. The super PAC, #ProjectRedTX, has quietly raised a half a million dollars — from a single donor — as it looks to ensure Republican dominance in Texas through the next round of redistricting. Attorney General Eric Holder and has the backing of former president Barack Obama.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 24, 2018 9:12 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACUR Election Integrity Bulletin: Election Security Debates and the Heritage Voter Fraud Database Grows

**A few U.S. Senators continue to push election security bill after \$380 million sent to the states; the Heritage Foundation election fraud database grows as some states prosecute voter fraud. Find more Voter ID and Redistricting updates in the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).**

## **FEDERAL**

### **The Hill: Senators chart path forward on election security bill**

Senators are working to again revise legislation designed to help guard digital voting infrastructure from cyberattacks after meeting with state officials. Congress has already sent \$380 million to states to upgrade voting equipment and address security concerns. State officials have been wary of efforts to address election security at the federal level, given that states — not the federal government — have historically been responsible for administering elections.

### **Heritage Foundation: Add These Voter Fraud Cases to the Growing List**

Despite the lack of media coverage, evidence of election fraud continues to mount.

This week, The Heritage Foundation added 26 new entries to its election fraud database, bringing the searchable ledger to a total of 1,132 proven instances of election fraud. That includes 983 cases that ended in a criminal conviction, 48 that led to civil penalties, 79 where defendants were enrolled in a diversion program, and 22 cases of official or judicial findings of fraud.

## **STATES**

### **New York: Cuomo grants parolees the right to vote**

Appealing to his left flank, Gov. Cuomo announced Wednesday that he's signed an executive order to give convicted felons on parole the right to vote. The order will cover more than 36,000 parolees statewide. More than half — 54 percent — live in New York City, according to the state Department of Corrections and Community Supervision.

### **North Dakota: ND fights part of voter ID ruling amid appeal**

North Dakota is fighting part of a federal judge's ruling that loosened the state's voter identification law. Early this month, U.S. District Judge Daniel Hovland issued an order preventing the state from requiring that IDs include a "current residential street address, which Native American communities often lack.

### **Texas: North Texas woman convicted of voter fraud: 'I had no idea I couldn't vote'**

A Tarrant County woman sentenced to five years in prison for voting while on felony probation spoke on camera for the first time on Tuesday. Crystal Mason says she made a last minute decision to vote at the urging of her mom. She says she had no idea that it was illegal to vote while she was serving probation. For voting, Mason was sentenced to five years in prison. She had recently served two years and 10 months for committing felony tax fraud and was still on probation.

### **Texas: Officials call for mail-in ballot investigation in Webb County**

After receiving complaints from three local elected officials, the director of elections at the Secretary of State's office is calling on an investigation of alleged mail-in ballot fraud in Webb County. Director of Elections Keith Ingram, in an April 10 letter to the Texas Attorney General's Director of Law Enforcement David Maxwell, wrote that the information his office received "warrants a submission for criminal investigation

### **Wisconsin: Nekoosa man charged with voter fraud doesn't show up for court**

A 55-year-old Nekoosa man charged with election fraud failed on Monday to make his initial appearance in

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Wood County Circuit Court. Thomas S. Tourtillott had a warrant issued for his arrest by Wood County Circuit Judge Todd Wolf. According to court records, the Wisconsin Elections Commission did an audit of the November 2016 presidential election and discovered Tourtillott, who is a convicted felon still on probation, had voted in the election.

### **West Virginia: For 1st time, state law will require voter ID checks in West Virginia May primary**

Poll workers across West Virginia are being schooled on West Virginia's new voter ID law as part of their training ahead of the May 8 primary election while educational materials are also being rolled to potential voters.

### **REDISTRICTING**

### **SCOTUS: Texas redistricting battles return to the court**

Since October, the Supreme Court has heard oral argument in two major redistricting battles, involving allegations of partisan gerrymandering in Wisconsin and Maryland. When the justices take the bench next Tuesday, they will hear oral argument in a third redistricting dispute, this time involving allegations that Texas lawmakers drew federal congressional and state legislative districts that harmed some of the state's black and Hispanic residents.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 07, 2018 9:27 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin: Former Secretary of State Blackwell says elections are vulnerable to fraud and must be protected; ACRU defends Alabama voter ID in Federal Court

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[Ken Blackwell, ACRU Board Member](#) and former Ohio Secretary of State, says protecting election integrity is important. ACRU [defends voter ID](#) in Alabama at the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals. [Fox News reports](#) non-US citizens names are increasingly found on voter rolls. Russians have been trying to influence elections for decades, [says DNI](#), though not one particular party. Michigan is not permitted to end [straight ticket voting in Michigan](#) says Judge. Missouri's Ashcroft says that McCaskill's claims of [Russian hacking her campaign](#) are 'a whole lot of nothing.' You don't want to miss this weeks [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).

## LEAD

### Townhall: ACRU Blackwell: Protecting the Integrity of Our Elections

Voting is a fundamental constitutional right. Free and fair elections are vital to our republic. Voting is a right and a civic duty. Our Founding Fathers entrusted "We the People" to have a full voice in leading our country into the exciting future. Every properly registered voter has the right to an undiluted vote. If someone else votes more than once... if a non-citizen votes... that dilutes your precious vote and undermines the integrity of our elections. Safeguarding our ballot boxes is the most important thing a Secretary of State can do because the assaults through voter intimidation, voter registration fraud and outright interference are legendary.

## FEDERAL

### Breitbart: Majority of Democrats: Illegal Aliens Should be Given the Right to Vote

A majority of Democrat voters now say that the 12 million illegal aliens currently residing in the United States should be given the right to vote. In a new poll by Rasmussen Reports, a majority of 54 percent of Democrats said illegal aliens in the U.S. should be given the right to vote so long as they pay taxes. 53 percent of self-described liberal voters said they too support giving the 12 million illegal aliens in the U.S. the right to vote. While the majority of Democrats support illegal aliens having the right to vote, the plan is very unpopular with American voters overall. Nearly 60 percent of voters said illegal aliens should not be given voting rights.

### Fox News: Names of Non-US Citizens Increasingly Found on Voter Rolls

Our voter registration system masks non-citizens and allows the opportunity to vote until they decide to self-report at their own peril. All of this could have been prevented if states actually verified citizen eligibility upfront.

### Daily Caller: DNI: 2018 Russian Efforts Not at 2016 Level, Not Aimed at One Party

Russian efforts to influence the 2018 midterm elections are not at the levels seen during the 2016 election, according to Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats. Russia has tried to disrupt U.S. elections "through decades," but it stepped up its effort in 2016, Coats said. Russian efforts in 2018 have not tried to benefit one particular party, he said.

## STATES

### Arizona: Arizona Officials Defend the State's Ban on 'Ballot Harvesting'

Arizona is entitled to make "ballot harvesting" a crime despite a federal law that allows anyone to deliver a letter, the state's legal defenders are arguing. At issue is a 2016 state law that makes it a felony for anyone to handle anyone else's voted or un-voted ballot. Violators can be sentenced to a year in state prison and

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a \$150,000 fine. In new legal filings, Joseph La Rue, an assistant attorney general, acknowledged there is a federal statute that spells out that federal law "shall not prohibit the conveyance or transmission of letters or packets by private hands without compensation." What makes that significant is that challengers say once someone puts an early ballot into an envelope and gives it to someone else to take to the polls, it becomes "mail" which the state cannot regulate. But La Rue is telling U.S. District Judge Douglas Rayes that those seeking to void a 2016 state law are misreading that federal law. He said all it does is create a "narrow exception" to the monopoly the U.S. Postal Service has in delivering mail. Specifically, he said it says federal law cannot bar the private delivery of mail.

### **Michigan: Michigan Can't Eliminate Straight-Party Voting**

A federal judge ruled Wednesday that Michigan can't eliminate straight-party voting, saying that preventing voters from checking a single box to vote for all of a party's candidates would lead to long lines at the polls and discriminate against blacks, who tend to use the straight-party option at a higher rate. The ruling from U.S. District Judge Gershwin Drain in Detroit was a victory for the A. Philip Randolph Institute, which sued Michigan Secretary of State Ruth Johnson to overturn the ban that the Republican-led Legislature passed in late 2015. Straight-party voting is popular in urban areas that typically vote Democratic, such as Detroit and Flint. Gov. Rick Snyder and other Republicans have said the ban will inspire voters to do their homework instead of simply choosing a party.

### **Missouri: Ashcroft Calls Report of Russian Hackers Targeting McCaskill 'a whole lot of nothing'**

Missouri's top election official is questioning the potential damage from Sen. Claire McCaskill's reported targeting by Russian hackers while assuring Missourians that wanna-be election meddlers will not succeed under his watch. "In a sense, this is a whole lot of nothing," Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft said Monday. "I bet there have been countless attempts in the last year," said Ashcroft, a Republican. "It's important that we defend against it, but it's happening all the time." The Daily Beast reporters noted they checked statements a Microsoft official made at a cybersecurity conference and independently discovered evidence McCaskill was targeted. Ashcroft questioned why the story was being made public roughly a year after the attempt and said he was concerned about "strictly partisan political purposes" that might dissuade people from getting involved in the process. "I want to be polite to our sitting senator. She's in a race, but why do you bring up something that happens multiple times a day to anyone?" Ashcroft wondered. He added that he hadn't spoken with McCaskill or her office about the incident but would be happy to assist: "We'd be glad to help her investigate it and make sure her staff were well trained. The people of the state should know: Their election is not going to be changed by Russians or Serbians or Chinese or people from Arkansas," Ashcroft said.

### **North Carolina: Democratic Governor Roy Cooper Will Take the Legislature to Court Over Proposed Amendments**

North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper will sue state legislative leaders over two proposed constitutional amendments that he wants to keep off the ballot in this November's elections. Cooper, a Democrat, said that the amendments would be an unconstitutional power grab by the Republicans in the General Assembly and that the amendments themselves are worded in a misleading way to trick voters. The two amendments would take away Cooper's power to appoint judges, regulators, board members and other state officials, and transfer that power to the legislature. The only language describing that amendment on the ballot will say: "Constitutional amendment to establish a bipartisan Board of Ethics and Elections to administer ethics and election laws, to clarify the appointment authority of the Legislative and the Judicial Branches, and to prohibit legislators from serving on boards and commissions exercising executive or judicial authority."

### **Oklahoma: Two Charged with Voter Fraud**

Washington County District Attorney Kevin Buchanan is investigating at least three cases of illegal voting during the June 26 primary election, and has already filed two felony cases as a result of the investigation. In the first case, Max Eugene Burchett Sr., 60, of Bartlesville was arrested on one felony count of voting illegally. Burchett completed an application for an in-person absentee ballot and cast his vote at the Washington County Election Board on June 22. Investigators said Burchett voted again at his regular polling place on June 26, submitting a second ballot for the primary election. Burchett admitted to voting twice during an interview with Bartlesville Police Department investigators, according to the affidavit. In another case, William James Hines II, 35, was arrested on one felony count of voting illegally. Investigators said Hines voted in-person absentee at the Washington County Election Board on June 21 and then voted

again at his precinct on June 26.

### **Pennsylvania: State Changed 'Motor Voter' Registration Two Years Ago to Weed Out Noncitizens**

An effort to remove noncitizens from voter rolls has reached a step that involves all but three Pennsylvania counties. Elections offices in counties in Southwestern Pennsylvania will attempt to ascertain the status of approximately 8,700 registered voters. "We know some of these are going to turn out to be eligible citizens," said Wanda Murren, spokeswoman for the Department of State in Harrisburg Monday.

### **REDISTRICTING**

### **Michigan News: Independent Redistricting Plan Will Be on ballot, Supreme Court Rules**

A proposal to implement an independent redistricting commission in Michigan will be on the November ballot, the Michigan Supreme Court has ruled. The majority opinion concluded that the plan put forward by Voters Not Politicians was not a general revision of the Constitution, and did not negatively impact powers assigned by the three branches of government. There was stiff opposition almost from the start from groups like the Michigan Chamber of Commerce and the Michigan Republican Party, who have tried to frame the matter as an effort by progressives to wrest political control from Republicans. Attorney Peter Ellsworth argued the proposal would create a "super agency" with no checks and balances of power from voters or branches of government that would perform a key government function.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 17, 2018 9:39 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin: New Hampshire strengthens residency laws for voters and Trump's Supreme Court nominee wrote the judicial opinion on SC voter ID law

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The New Hampshire Supreme Court [upheld the constitutionality](#) of the voter residency bill, giving Governor Sununu clarification before signing the bill. More [evidence](#) of non-citizen registration and voting in Pennsylvania. The President's Supreme Court pick [ruled on South Carolina's voter law](#) upholding voter ID. Boston politicians seek to [allow noncitizens a vote](#) in local elections. Many other interesting stories in the July 15 [edition of the EIB](#).

## LEAD

### Concord Monitor: N.H. Supreme Court upholds constitutionality of voter residency bill

A fiercely contested bill to make residency a condition of voting in New Hampshire was determined by the state Supreme Court to be constitutional Thursday, in a major ruling that clears its approval by Gov. Chris Sununu. In a 3-2 ruling, the court found that the bill, House Bill 1264, is not a burden on the right to vote, but rather a means to better organize state laws "in order to place voters and residents on equal footing as New Hampshire citizens."

### WMUR: Amid criticism, praise, Sununu signs voter residency requirement bill into law

Calling it an avenue to restoring "equality and fairness to our elections," Gov. Chris Sununu on Friday signed into law highly controversial legislation requiring anyone voting in New Hampshire to take action to become a resident of the state. House Bill 1264 will take effect July 1, 2019, which means the upcoming 2018 elections will be held under the existing statutes that allow people domiciled in the state to vote in the state even if they are not residents of the state.

## FEDERAL

### Washington Times: Noncitizen immigrants find it easy to register to vote, cast ballots

Allegheny County has removed more than 130 people from its voter lists in recent years after discovering they weren't U.S. citizens and should never have been allowed to register, much less vote, according to a report being released Thursday from the Public Interest Legal Foundation. Of those, nearly 40 went on to vote in elections before they were removed from the list, the foundation found.

### How Trump's Supreme Court pick ruled on SC's voter ID law

Even before he possibly secures a seat on the U.S. Supreme Court, President Donald Trump's choice to be the next associate justice on the nation's highest court already has had an impact on S.C. laws — and the state's election process. As a judge on the D.C. Court of Appeals in 2012, Kavanaugh ruled on a Justice Department challenge to an S.C. law requiring voters to show an ID to cast their ballots, a law that critics contended really was intended to reduce minority turnout in elections. Kavanaugh was the primary author of the opinion, which ultimately upheld the S.C. law. That law, passed by the GOP-controlled Legislature in 2011, required voters to show one of five forms of photo identification before they could vote.

### Real Clear Politics: Let's Not Paper Over Election Security

As our nation focuses on election security, an errant notion has emerged that paper-only balloting is some kind of panacea against potential threats. While it is vital to election security that we mandate the use of verifiable paper audit trails, the same cannot be said of paper-only ballots, where the voters do not interact with a voting machine of any kind. The best system is a hybrid approach in which the voter interacts with a machine but still generates a voter verifiable paper record. This offers voters a second chance because they now have the opportunity to review their ballot to ensure that the votes they are casting are the votes they intend to cast. The machine will either indicate to the voter if they made a mistake or will prevent them

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from making the mistake altogether.

## STATES

### **California: Stop the undocumented from getting driver's licenses? California plan would reverse law**

An initiative that would reverse a law that allows immigrants residing in California illegally to obtain driver's licenses has been cleared to begin gathering signatures for the 2020 ballot. The proposal also seeks to eliminate the current "sanctuary state" law and end automatic voter registration practices in California. Don Rosenberg, the main proponent of the proposal and a staunch opponent of illegal immigration, said he believes the plan will increase public safety, reduce voter fraud and prevent traffic fatalities. [More than 1 million illegal immigrants in California have been issued driver's licenses](#) since Assembly Bill 60 took effect in 2015.

### **Georgia: Atlanta mayor's campaign paid firm registered to election official**

Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms' campaign paid a consulting firm registered to a senior official in the Fulton County elections department during last year's runoff election. According to records obtained by Channel 2 Action News and The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, the campaign paid more than \$3,600 to RJ Mays Consulting, whose registered agent is Ralph Jones Sr., registration chief of the county's election department.

### **Massachusetts: Boston weighs giving legal, non-US citizens voting rights**

Non-U.S. citizens living in the country legally may one day be allowed to vote in Boston elections. The City Council is holding a hearing Tuesday on the idea at the request of Council President Andrea Campbell. The council is considering ways to make city elections more inclusive, including allowing immigrants with legal status in the country the right to vote in municipal races.

### **Maryland: Company working for Maryland elections system has ties to Russian**

Maryland officials are asking the Department of Homeland Security to help secure the state's election system after learning a vendor that provides key services was bought by a company with links to a Russian oligarch. State House Speaker Michael Busch said the FBI had found no criminal activity. But Gov. Larry Hogan said even the appearance of the potential for "bad actors" to influence the state's election infrastructure could undermine public trust. An investor in the vendor, ByteGrid LLC, has "close ties" to Russian President Vladimir Putin, according to Busch.

### **New Jersey: Lawsuit claims voter fraud in Dover's 4th Ward election results**

Dover Alderman Ronald M. Camacho has alleged voter fraud and misconduct by poll workers in a lawsuit challenging his 12-vote loss to newcomer Carlos A. Valencia in the June 5 Democratic primary election. Filed with Superior Court Assignment Judge Stuart Minkowitz in Morristown, the lawsuit identifies 28 ballots cast in the 4th Ward that should be nullified. Those voters either don't live in the ward, received illegal assistance in filling out mail-in ballots, had mail-in ballots brought to the Morris County Board of Elections by a non-authorized person, or received improper assistance by a poll worker filling out a provisional ballot on election day, the lawsuit charges.

### **Oregon: Illegal immigration foes move to bypass liberal legislatures, take anti-sanctuary measures to voters**

There's virtually no chance that the uber-progressive Oregon legislature would ever repeal the state's oldest-in-the-nation sanctuary law, which is why locals worried about illegal immigration have turned to the voters. The Stop Oregon Sanctuaries campaign submitted roughly 110,000 signatures last week to qualify an anti-sanctuary measure for the November ballot, more than the 88,000 required, stunning liberal activists and laying the groundwork for a landmark ballot battle. "This has national ramifications and our opponents know that," said Cynthia Kendoll, president of Oregonians for Immigration Reform, which led the petition drive.

### **Texas: Aliens Fuel Voter Fraud in Texas**

For a "non-existent" problem, non-citizen voting is becoming a regular occurrence in Texas. The latest

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cases reported within a two week period expose what the state Attorney General's Office calls a "lack of safeguards in the system to detect ineligible voters, like non-citizens." While the Left persists in dismissing such fraudulent behavior as a mythological urban legend, officials in Texas, home to the nation's second biggest population of legal and illegal aliens, say the state makes it easy for non-citizens to vote. "We depend on the self-reporting of the individual," observed state Sen. Brian Birdwell, R-Granbury. "That is a significant problem."

## REDISTRICTING

### Breitbart News: Pennsylvania Redistricting May Flip 3 House Seats to Democrats

Democrats are currently favored in three seats held by Pennsylvania Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives, thanks in large part to a controversial and unprecedented decision by the Democrat-dominated Pennsylvania State Supreme Court earlier this year. The Court rejected the state legislature's 2011 redistricting of the state's congressional districts completed after the 2010 census and drew the boundaries of those congressional district lines. Seven Republican-held seats in Pennsylvania are now on the Cook Political Report's list of 99 competitive races. To get a sense of how significantly the Democrat-dominated Pennsylvania Supreme Court's gerrymandering has hurt Republican chances in the Keystone State this fall, consider that on December 30, 2017, when the Real Clear Politics Average of Polls gave the Democrats a 12.9 point generic congressional ballot advantage, five points higher than the Democrats' current 7.2 point generic congressional ballot advantage.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 13, 2018 10:50 AM EDT  
**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>  
**Subject:** ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin: Non Citizen Registration and Voting In the News

**The Kansas Secretary of State informs a Federal Court that Kansas citizenship verification law blocked up to 18,000 non-citizen votes. ACRU Board Member Christian Adams tells Fox News Host Tucker Carlson that non-citizens are voting in Texas. Read more in the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).**

## LEAD

### **J. Christian Adams to Fox News Host Tucker Carlson: Noncitizens are Voting in Texas**

Watch ACRU Board Member J. Christian Adams explain to Tucker Carlson, Fox News how non-citizens are on the voter registration rolls and vote in Texas.

## FEDERAL

### **Ed Feulner: Preventing ‘the tyranny of the majority’**

The Founders were determined to forestall the inherent dangers of what James Madison called “the tyranny of the majority.” So they constructed something more lasting: a republic. Something with checks and balances. A system of government carefully balanced to safeguard the rights of both the majority and the minority.

### **Washington Times: Secretary of State Kobach says Kansas citizenship verification law blocked up to 18,000 noncitizen votes**

Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach defended his state’s voter registration law Tuesday in federal court, claiming the measure he championed has prevented between 1,000 and 18,000 noncitizens from casting ballots.

## STATES

### **California: Lawmaker Who Backed Voting Rights for Illegals Wants \$500K to Warn Them About Registration Risks**

A San Francisco lawmaker who was one of the most fervent supporters of giving illegal immigrants the right to vote in school board elections now wants the city to spend \$500,000 annually to warn illegal immigrants about the potential risks associated with registering to vote.

### **Kansas: Trial begins over Kansas law requiring citizenship proof**

A trial over a Kansas law that requires proof of U.S citizenship from people registering to vote opened on Tuesday, with critics calling it illegal and backers saying it was a necessary tool to fight fraud.

### **Indiana: Lawsuit urges federal judge to add more early-voting sites in Marion County**

In the latest development in an ongoing lawsuit over early-voting access in the state's largest county, plaintiffs have asked U.S. District Judge Sarah Evans Barker to order the Marion County Election Board to add additional voting sites before the May 8 primaries.

### **West Virginia: Non-Citizen Charged by Secretary of State with Perjury**

A man from Burkina Faso, now living in Martinsburg through a green card program, has been charged by investigators with the West Virginia Secretary of State for providing false information on his voter registration application. The Clerk’s office informed the man, Isac Dakuyo, that he had illegally registered and voted in the 2016 election.

### **Texas: AG Probing Border County Judge ‘Voting’ Years After Death**

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton is investigating a case of purported voter fraud where a border county judge, who, although dead since 2010, continues to vote. This stunning information surfaced at a February

Senate Select Committee on Election Security meeting when Brantley Starr, deputy first assistant to the AG, gave a “shout out” to the retired district judge born in 1930 who remains on the registration rolls despite his death nearly eight years ago. “The interesting thing that’s remarkable of him voting three times in his 80’s is he died in May of 2010,” remarked Starr.

### **Texas: Attorney General Prosecuting Voter Fraud in Nueces County**

Texas is finally starting to crack down on voter fraud. The state’s Attorney General Ken Paxton announced Wednesday that his office is prosecuting three Robstown residents on nine counts of voter fraud committed in Nueces County during the 2016 elections. A grand jury indicted the three on multiple felony charges that include mail-in ballot fraud, ballot theft, vote harvesting, and illegal voting.

### **REDISTRICTING**

#### **Trump: PA redistricting 'very unfair' to Republicans**

The President hopes to see the Supreme Court reverse the slanted redistricting decision in Pennsylvania.

#### **Pennsylvania: Federal judges hear arguments in PA redistricting case**

Lawyers for two Republican state Senate leaders and eight GOP congressmen contended that the state court usurped the legislature's power. Their key argument is that justices only technically gave lawmakers two days to fix the map.

#### **The American Civil Rights Union**

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 03, 2018 10:05 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACUR Election Integrity Bulletin: North Carolina General Assembly Places Voter ID Referendum on the Ballot

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The North Carolina General Assembly voted to place the [voter ID referendum](#) on the November ballot; the Wall Street Journal Editorial Board states the [Supreme Court pushed back hard](#) against the Left's gambit in Texas to use the Voting Rights Act to racially gerrymander legislative districts; a Texas Judge [throws out primary runoff](#) results due to invalid votes.

To find what is happening across the country in the Election Integrity Bulletin, follow the [link](#)

## LEAD

### North Carolina lawmakers agree to pitch ID mandate to voters

North Carolina's Republican lawmakers are asking the public for a fresh mandate to block voting by people without certain kinds of photo identification, two years after their earlier attempt to make that a state law got thrown out by federal judges. With a Senate vote on Friday's last day of session, the GOP-controlled legislature finalized a proposed constitutional amendment that would require photo IDs to vote in person. The House voted earlier this week to submit the referendum to voters in November. It isn't subject to the veto stamp of Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper, a strong voter ID opponent.

## FEDERAL

### Racial Gerrymanders Rebuked: The Supreme Court calls foul on a voting-rights gambit in Texas.

Liberals have weaponized the Voting Rights Act and sometimes found support from a conflicted Supreme Court. But a 5-4 majority on Monday pushed back hard against the left's gambit in Texas to use the law to racially gerrymander legislative districts.

### In England, Hillary Trashes America's Electoral College

Repeat presidential candidate Hillary Clinton is heaping more criticism on America's electoral college, this time during an appearance at Oxford in the United Kingdom. Clinton, who lost the 2016 presidential campaign with 232 electoral votes to President Trump's 306, has previously called for scrapping America's system of electing presidents, instead relying on a direct one-person, one-vote election.

## STATES

### Alabama: Is collecting absentee ballots illegal?

Deputy Attorney General, Brent Beal, asks residents to let the Secretary of State's office know if they receive an absentee ballot they did not apply for or if a worker asks to pick up your absentee ballot. Collecting and filling out absentee ballots is illegal.

### Maryland: Elections board says another 7,200 voters' information wasn't passed on by MVA

The State Board of Elections disclosed Thursday that the Motor Vehicle Administration had informed it that and additional 7,200 voters had been affected by the computer glitch that forced many Marylanders to cast provisional ballots in Tuesday's primary.

### Ohio: Congressional candidate Melanie Leneghan claims ballot-box fraud, asks Supreme Court to intervene

Republican 12th Congressional District candidate Melanie Leneghan has asked the Ohio Supreme Court to either order a new election in Muskingum County or declare her the winner of the primary because county elections officials opened ballot boxes prior to the start of a scheduled recount. In a complaint filed

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with the Supreme Court last Wednesday, Leneghan claims that ballots in 16 Muskingum County precincts were "fraudulently tampered with" and must be declared ineligible because they were opened and counted prior to a June 6 recount, ordered at Leneghan's request.

### **Texas: Texas Democrat Runoff Election Results Invalidated for 'Voter Fraud'**

A Texas judge threw out the results of a recent Democrat runoff race for a justice of the peace seat in Kleberg County, ruling seven votes cast were invalid. He ordered a new election must be held. Breitbart Texas reported that Democrat challenger Ofelia "Ofie" Gutierrez contested the results of the May 22 primary runoff race against Democrat incumbent Esequiel "Cheque" De La Paz for Kleberg County Justice of the Peace in District 4. Gutierrez originally lost by seven votes. She requested a recount but lost again by six votes, 318 to 312. Then, on June 8, Gutierrez sued De La Paz, alleging voter fraud.

### **Texas: Noncitizen Arrested for Alleged Illegal 'Voter Assistance' Scheme in Texas Border**

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton announced that authorities arrested a noncitizen for her alleged role in a voter assistance scheme during a 2016 border city runoff election. Marcela Gutierrez, a non-United States citizen, was taken into custody following an investigation conducted by the AG's office. On June 3, she was indicted by a Hidalgo County grand jury and charged with illegal voting for marking a ballot without a voter's consent in a June 2016 Hidalgo city runoff election.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **The Redistricting Cases Are Not About Gerrymandering, They're About Imposing Proportional Representation**

The Supreme Court's decision last week in *Gill v. Whitford* is potentially more important than most commentary suggests. For despite all its dressing in what the chief justice in oral argument called "sociological gobbledygook," the true goal of the Democratic plaintiffs in these and similar cases is the judicial transformation of the American electoral system from our current majority/plurality rules to effectively become one of proportional representation.

### **Supreme Court rules for Texas in redistricting case**

The Supreme Court on Monday largely ruled in favor of Texas, reviving congressional and legislative districts that were struck down by a lower court for diluting the votes of black and Hispanic voters. In a 5-4 decision, the justices said there isn't enough evidence to prove that state Republicans acted in bad faith and engaged in intentional discrimination when it adopted new maps in 2013 for two congressional districts and several legislative districts.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 15, 2018 7:50 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin: Senate Report finds no vote tallies changed despite attempt to lower voter confidence  
Voter ID upheld in Oklahoma

**The U.S. Senate releases an Election Security Report that finds no evidence of changed votes despite an attempt to undermine confidence in the voting process. Voter ID is upheld in Oklahoma. North Dakota appeals a lower decision on voter ID but sits down for settlement talks with group of American Indians. Your weekly Election Integrity Bulletin can be found [here](#). Visit the website and read in depth summaries of election policy issues.**

## **LEAD**

### **Senate report: No evidence that Russians changed vote tallies in 2016**

There is no evidence that Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election affected the actual vote count, according to the first installment of the Senate Intelligence Committee's Russia report, released Tuesday. "The Committee has not seen any evidence that vote tallies were manipulated or that voter registration information was deleted or modified," the report said, confirming a January 2017 assessment by U.S. intelligence agencies. However, the committee concluded that hackers affiliated with the Russian Government "conducted an unprecedented, coordinated cyber campaign against state election infrastructure." "Russian actors scanned databases for vulnerabilities, attempted intrusions, and in a small number of cases successfully penetrated a voter registration database," the panel found. "This activity was part of a larger campaign to prepare to undermine confidence in the voting process."

## **FEDERAL**

### **Fox News: Blue states rally to upend Electoral College, with addition of Connecticut**

Connecticut is joining a growing alliance of liberal states in a "pact" that would supposedly allow them to change the way presidents are picked -- by allocating each state's electoral votes to the winner of the national popular vote. The uphill campaign, which if ever brought to fruition would almost certainly face a court challenge, has gained renewed attention amid Democratic grumbling about the Electoral College in the wake of President Trump's 2016 win. Other jurisdictions that have joined the pact include California, Hawaii, Illinois, Massachusetts, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington and the District of Columbia — all places where Clinton defeated Trump in 2016. According to the National Popular Vote website, the proposal has passed in at least one house in 11 other states, including Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, Maine, Michigan, North Carolina, New Mexico, Nevada, Oklahoma and Oregon.

### **Free Beacon: Soros Sole Funder of PAC Targeting Infrequent Voters in Battleground States**

Liberal billionaire George Soros is the only individual funding a political action committee established by a coalition of anti-Trump organizations that will target infrequent voters in three battleground states for the November midterm elections, filings show. Soros, who bankrolled lawsuits against voter identification laws and poured money into voter mobilization campaigns during the 2016 elections, has a personal goal of enlarging the electorate by 10 million voters, internal documents from his foundation previously revealed.

## **STATES**

### **Arizona: Judge: Arizona prohibition on 'ballot harvesting' is legal**

A federal judge upheld an Arizona law that makes it a felony to bring someone else's early ballot to a polling place. In an extensive ruling this week, Judge Douglas Rayes said there's scant evidence the 2016 law will impose a hardship. While a majority of Arizonans now vote with early ballots, he said the vast majority manage to get them turned in without the help of outsiders whose activities are now a crime. He said challengers, led by the Arizona Democratic Party, presented no evidence that the law is more likely to affect minorities than any other voter.

### **North Dakota: North Dakota agrees to settlement talks over voter ID laws**



North Dakota agreed to hold settlement negotiations with a group of American Indians who sued over expanded voter ID laws after a federal judge admonished the state for exaggerating worries of voter fraud. Hovland previously had eliminated a requirement that documents include residential street addresses, which are sometimes not assigned on American Indian reservations. North Dakota officials called that part of the ruling unworkable, and claimed it could lead to voter fraud. The state already had appealed Hovland's ruling and the attorney fees totaling more than \$1.1 million filed by the plaintiffs. North Dakota Secretary of State Al Jaeger, a Republican and the state's top election official, said the state would consider settlement proposals.

#### **Oklahoma: State's high court upholds voter ID law**

The state's voter identification law has been ruled constitutional by the Oklahoma Supreme Court. "The Oklahoma Voter ID Act is a reasonable procedural regulation to ensure that voters meet identity and residency qualifications to vote and does not cause an undue burden," according to an opinion that was filed Tuesday and released Wednesday. Lawmakers in 2009 put voter identification on the ballot in the form of State Question 746. The measure in 2010 secured passage with 74 percent of the vote. Requiring identification at the polls protects the integrity and reliability of the electoral process, the opinion states. "Because the Oklahoma Voter ID Act exists as a procedural regulation to ensure voters meet an existing qualification of voting and there is no direct cost associated with voting, it is constitutional," according to the opinion.

#### **Pennsylvania: Election Worker Pleads Guilty To Intimidating Voters Who Wanted To Vote For Non-Democratic Candidates**

A North Philadelphia election worker has pleaded guilty to election fraud during a 2017 special election for a state House seat in the city. Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro says 59-year-old Thurman George, a machine inspector at Poll 43-7, pleaded guilty to frauds by election officers. George, along with three other election workers, was accused of harassment and intimidation against voters who wanted to vote for candidates of their choice, but not the candidate being pushed by the city's Democratic Party machine. George has been sentenced to five years probation and is prohibited from voting for four years.

#### **Texas: Hidalgo's outgoing mayor to contest election**

The mayor here is expected to announce today he will contest Saturday's election after losing to one of the council members by 261 votes. Hidalgo Mayor Martin Cepeda believes his opponent's political party went outside of the city limits to recruit people to vote in the municipal election.

#### **West Virginia: West Virginia's Voter ID Law: Some Say It's A Balance, Others Say It's Not Needed At All**

Having gone into effect at the beginning of this year, West Virginia's new voter identification law sees its first statewide election during the May 8 primaries. The West Virginia Legislature passed the law during the 2016 regular session. Under the provisions of the new law, voters are required to show an acceptable form of ID to legally make their way to the polls. The aim, according to Republican leaders, was to prevent voter fraud while not burdening those who legitimately want to exercise their constitutional rights.

### **REDISTRICTING**

#### **Ohio: Ohio Passes Bipartisan Redistricting Ballot Initiative to Curb Gerrymandering**

Ohio voters overwhelmingly approved a ballot proposal Tuesday to reform the state's redistricting process by requiring bipartisan cooperation in making new maps. After polls closed, three-quarters of votes counted backed the ballot initiative. The measure asked voters if they wanted to amend the state constitution to require bipartisanship while drawing new congressional districts.

#### **Utah: Redistricting reform measure likely to qualify for ballot**

A proposal to overhaul the way Utah draws its political boundaries appears likely to qualify for the November ballot, after supporters turned in nearly 150,000 signatures to state officials. The measure, dubbed Better Boundaries, would create an independent commission to draw district lines every 10 years, following the decennial Census. Today, district maps are drawn by the state legislature. But if the measure passes, it would hand power to draw the maps to the seven-member commission, five of whom would



have to sign off on any new map to advance it. The approved map would go first to the chief justice of the state Supreme Court and then to the legislature for approval or rejection.

### **Missouri: Missouri House Would Count Only Citizens When Redistricting**

The Missouri House has advanced a constitutional amendment that would require that only U.S. citizens be counted for the purposes of legislative redistricting. The measure was approved on a 90-34 vote Friday. If the Senate agrees, voters will see the question on the Nov. 6 ballot. The number of citizens would be determined by a citizenship question planned for the upcoming census or a reliable estimate from the U.S. Census Bureau. Currently, districts are drawn based on total population. Proponents say only citizens should matter when it comes to legislative power. Opponents say the move would mean legal residents would not have representation.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 2:01 PM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin - Supreme Court agrees with ACRU, Issues Stay in NC Redistricting Case; Progressive Group to Spend \$5 million in Secretaries of State races

**The Supreme Court agrees with ACRU and Issues a Stay in NC Redistricting Case.** The progressive group iVote will spend \$5 million to fight secretaries of state that support voter integrity measures. Read the entire [Election Integrity Bulletin](#) for a review of the latest voting and redistricting news in the nation - and forward to a colleague who needs to read this!

## LEAD

### US Supreme Court Agrees with ACRU: Issues Stay in NC Redistricting Case

On January 18, 2018, the American Civil Rights Union (ACRU) helped successfully urge the U.S. Supreme Court to issue a stay in *Rucho v. Common Cause*.

## FEDERAL

### Washington Post: Democratic group will spend \$5 million to elect secretaries of state, the latest front in 'voting wars'

The left-leaning ballot access group iVote will spend at least \$5 million across swing states to elect Democratic secretaries of state — the latest front in the “voting wars” that Democrats worried they have been losing.

### SCOTUS Blog Symposium: ACRU Attorney Klukowski says polling-place speech restrictions collide with modern free-speech doctrine

Ken Klukowski, an attorney representing the American Civil Rights Union, filed an amicus brief in support of the challengers in *Minnesota Voters Alliance v. Mansky* where the Supreme Court will decide whether the First Amendment allows a “buffer zone” forbidding all political speech around polling places on Election Day.

## STATES

### Florida: Swing State Felons May Get Right to Vote

Voters in one of America’s biggest swing states will be able to decide on this November’s ballot whether convicted felons will regain the right to vote.

### Pennsylvania: Philadelphia Election Worker Reportedly Said GOP Votes Not Allowed 'On My Machine'

Four Democrats now await trial on charges such as committing fraud, intimidating voters, and tampering with public records.

### Wisconsin: Ethics chief Brian Bell cites liberal bias as reason for leaving Wisconsin Government Accountability Board

Wisconsin's ethics director said he left a post in 2015 with an agency maligned by Republicans in part because he thought it was poorly run and infected with a liberal bias.

### Wisconsin: In Wake of John Doe Investigation, GOP lawmakers will appoint Wisconsin elections chief if commission doesn't act to appoint new director, Sen. Scott Fitzgerald says

The leader of the state Senate says GOP lawmakers will appoint a director for the state Elections Commission if the bipartisan panel doesn't find someone new to do the job in the next six weeks.

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## Texas County Clerk Raises Alarm on Voter Fraud Cases Ahead of Midterms

Nueces County Clerk Kara Sands gave a presentation on voter fraud to the local commissioner's court late last week.

### Texas: Mail Ballot Voter Fraud Complaints Filed in Nueces County

Mail-in ballots are again the target of a voter fraud investigation in Nueces County – and fraud victims have again turned to private citizens for help that law enforcement couldn't or wouldn't provide.

### Texas: Border County DA Pledges Crackdown on Voter Fraud

Starr County District Attorney Omar Escobar says there are questionable applications for mail-in ballots and he suspects that people lied on their voting applications. He has also found noncitizens who have registered and gave the elections department a list of those convicted of felonies, including those who are on felony probation and are thus ineligible to vote.

## REDISTRICTING

### Michigan: Republicans say Dems behind redistricting plan

Promising strong opposition to redistricting reform and the organization Voters Not Politicians (VNP), Michigan Freedom Fund Executive Director Tony Daunt took a few moments to update Republicans on redistricting at the recent 4th Congressional District Roundup.

### Missouri: Progressive mega-donor George Soros bigfoots into Missouri ballot fight over redistricting, ethics

National progressive activist George Soros, the billionaire bogeyman of conservative nightmares, dumped a quarter-million dollars into a Missouri ethics reform campaign this month. Perhaps most significantly, though, the measure would fundamentally change how the state's legislative district boundaries are drawn.

### North Carolina: North Carolina redistricting wars return

The Supreme Court granted a request by North Carolina Republicans to block (at least temporarily) an order by a three-judge federal court in that state that would have required the state legislature to submit a new federal congressional map today.

### Ohio: Competing Redistricting Plans Emerge in Ohio

Two competing proposals to change Ohio's rules for congressional map-making could appear on separate statewide ballots later this year. Democrats, Republicans and voter advocacy groups agree changes are needed but not on what they should look like.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 10, 2018 9:42 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin: Supreme Court nominee will certainly hear cases on the integrity of elections

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Recent [voter fraud cases](#) researched by the Heritage Foundation show the growing importance of upholding election integrity. President Trump's nominee for the Supreme Court, Brett Kavanaugh, will certainly hear important cases regarding the integrity of the voting process. Find out what is going on around the country with the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).

## LEAD

### Commerce Hopes to Derail Lawsuits on Census Citizenship Question

The decision in March by Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross to add a controversial citizenship question to the 2020 census has provoked multiple lawsuits, one of which got a key boost this week when a New York judge allowed discovery to proceed. The Trump administration has argued that restoring a question about citizenship last used in the 1950 census is needed to combat voter fraud, noting that it has routinely appeared as part of the annual American Community Survey that goes out to only a portion of the country.

## FEDERAL

### Washington Free Beacon: Soros Director Moves to Rockefeller Entity to Push for Automatic Voter Registration

Julie Fernandes, who served as the deputy assistant attorney general in the civil rights division of President Barack Obama's Justice Department and then as a director of Voting Rights and Democracy at Soros's Open Society Foundations, will now serve as the associate director of the institutional accountability and individual liberty at the Rockefeller Family Fund, a New York-based nonprofit. Fernandes's move is another signal that Democrats are moving to undermine voter ID laws following Donald Trump's victory in 2016. It also lists its objective as "expanding participation in the nation's democracy by enacting legislation to provide automatic and permanent registration to all voters."

### The Daily Signal: Instances of Voter Fraud Continue to Mount, Further Compromising Our Elections

Recent voter fraud cases show the growing importance of upholding election integrity. These cases demonstrate the increasingly serious problem of individuals ignoring voter laws and cheating the system—and the need for states to take seriously their duty to maintain the integrity of the electoral process. Contrary to the left's claims that election fraud is a non-issue, there is substantial evidence that voter fraud not only is real, but affects the outcome of elections throughout the country. Indeed, The Heritage Foundation's voter fraud database details 1,132 proven instances of fraud in 47 states and is regularly updated.

## STATES

### Arizona: Lawsuit challenges Arizona's ban on delivering someone else's ballot to polls

A new lawsuit seeks to block Arizona from enforcing its ban on "ballot harvesting" for the upcoming election, claiming the state has no legal authority to regulate who can and cannot deliver someone else's mail. In the lawsuit filed in federal court, attorney Spencer Scharff argues that only Congress has the right to regulate the U.S. mail. He said that once someone puts a ballot into an envelope that has prepaid postage, it becomes "mail."

### Delaware: Newark, Delaware, where some people can vote more than once

One person, one vote. For a century, it has been a refrain recited by civil rights advocates, including former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Earl Warren. It is echoing in the municipal building of

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Delaware's third largest city. Newark, home of the University of Delaware, employs a peculiar voting system when holding a rare ballot referendum. Any voter who owns a house within the city limits can vote just once. But if that voter transfers the home to a newly-created limited liability company, they then can vote twice – once as a regular voter and again as a representative of the LLC.

What's more is that a property manager in control of 31 LLCs, which own 31 parcels of land in the city, can vote 31 times.

### **Iowa: Arguments Presented in Mail Ballot Voter ID Lawsuit**

Petitioners challenging Iowa's voter ID law were in Polk County District court, urging a district judge to temporarily halt enforcement of parts of the law. The requirements in the law to show identification at the polls don't go into effect until next year. Lawyers for the plaintiffs argued for a temporary injunction to stop the parts of the law that are already in effect dealing with absentee ballots. Under the law, voters must present identification numbers when they request an absentee ballot.

### **Massachusetts: Court upholds 20-day cutoff for voter registration**

Requiring people to register to vote 20 days before an election doesn't violate their constitutional rights, the state's top court ruled, dealing a blow to good government groups that have argued the cutoff disenfranchises voters. The ruling by the Supreme Judicial Court overturns a decision by a lower court judge that the cutoff violates the state Constitution.

### **New York: Ghent man ordered to pay fine in voter fraud**

A Ghent man accused of voter fraud pleaded guilty to a lesser charge of disorderly conduct in Ghent Town Court. Bert S. Goldfinger, 66, was charged with first-degree false instrument for filing and illegal voting, both are class E felonies. He pleaded guilty to a lesser charge of disorderly conduct, a violation; in exchange for a guilty plea. Goldfinger admitted to intentionally and illegally voting in the November 2013 general election in New York City and in Columbia County, according to court documents. After turning himself in, Goldfinger was arrested, arraigned, pleaded guilty, and sentenced in the Ghent Town Court, said Columbia County District Attorney Paul Czajka.

### **New York: Real estate consultant pleads guilty to voter fraud scheme**

A co-conspirator of a Monsey developer has admitted his role in a voter fraud scheme in a 2014 Sullivan County village election. Volvy Smilowitz, also known as Zev Smilowitz, 29, of Monroe, pleaded guilty in White Plains federal court to one count of conspiracy to corrupt the Bloomingburg village electoral process by falsely registering numerous voters who don't live in the community.

### **North Carolina: Voter identification a worthy safeguard for election process**

Requiring identification at the polls proactively safeguards our election process and ensures the integrity of the results. That's why I, along with 73 of my N.C. House of Representatives colleagues, voted for House Bill 1092. The bill will place a measure on the ballot this November that, if passed by the people, would amend our state constitution, requiring voter identification. This N.C. constitutional amendment would "require voters to present photo identification before voting in person." How hard is it to get a picture ID in North Carolina? All that is needed is a birth certificate and Social Security card. Every U.S. citizen should have both documents. Judicial activism is a problem throughout the country, not just in North Carolina.

### **Oregon: Oregon Attorney General Considers Investigation Into Election Fraud**

Oregon's top attorney is considering whether to investigate if a crime was committed during the process of putting one of the more controversial initiatives on the November ballot. Despite calls from some Democratic lawmakers to halt the measure verification process while an investigation is underway, the secretary of state's office is moving forward with the certification process. The complaint and investigation could, however, jeopardize the measure's chance of making it to the ballot.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Michigan: Challenge to redistricting ballot proposal to be heard by Supreme Court**

The Michigan Supreme Court will hear oral arguments later this month for a challenge to a ballot proposal

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aiming to reshape how Michigan's political districts are created. If passed, the proposal would amend Michigan's state Constitution, and opponents argue it would do too much to change it to pass legal muster. Citizens Protecting Michigan's Constitution claim the group didn't list all of the sections of the state constitution that would be abrogated by the plan, and also argued Voters Not Politicians' initiative is a "massive revision" of the constitution, not an amendment.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 01, 2018 9:35 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACUR Election Integrity Bulletin: Texas Voter ID Upheld and Texas Redistricting at the Supreme Court

**The Lone Star State was in the News In a Big Way – Texas Voter ID upheld and the lengthy redistricting case was heard at the Supreme Court. Plus Florida wins a stay on appeal in felon voting case. Read more in the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).**

## LEAD

### 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals OK's Texas voter ID law

A federal appeals court has upheld the latest version of the state's voter ID law. In a 2 to 1 ruling, a three judge panel with the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said opponents of the revised voter ID requirements in Texas had failed to prove fixes the Legislature made to its original voter ID law had "discriminatory effect on indigent minority voters."

Attorney General Ken Paxton was quick to applaud the decision. "The court rightly recognized that when the Legislature passed Senate Bill 5 last session, it complied with every change the 5th Circuit ordered to the original voter ID law," Paxton said. "Safeguarding the integrity of our elections is essential to preserving our democracy. The revised voter ID law removes any burden on voters who cannot obtain a photo ID."

## FEDERAL

### Nextgov: DHS: No Evidence of Russia Targeting 2018 Elections Yet

The Homeland Security Department has seen no evidence so far this year that Russian intelligence agencies are trying to hack into voting systems to undermine the 2018 midterm elections, the department's cyber lead told Congress Tuesday.

### Washington Times: Trump judicial nominee says he's personally witnessed voter fraud

Michael J. Truncale, one of President Trump's judicial nominees, said Wednesday he's personally witnessed incidents of voter fraud while serving as an election judge in Texas.

### Governing.com: Voting Rights for Felons Becoming a Key Issue for Democrats

Florida has emerged as a battleground in the fight over the 6 million people, in and out of jail, who can't vote because they were convicted of a felony.

## STATES

### Arkansas: Long-awaited ruling puts hold on Arkansas' voter-ID law

Arkansas' new voter-identification law is on hold for now, thanks to a judge's ruling Thursday evening.

Since August, voters have been required to show government-approved photo identification to poll workers to ensure their ballots are counted.

### Florida: Appeals court delays changes in felon voting-rights system

Florida's system of restoring voting rights to ex-felons remains intact, for now at least, after a federal appeals court Wednesday night delayed a judge's ruling issued in February that had struck down the system. The decision from the Atlanta-based U.S. 11th Circuit Court of Appeals prevented a late-night meeting of the Florida Clemency Board, which was called by Gov. Rick Scott to comply with the lower court's Thursday deadline to adopt new voting rights restoration rules.

### Ohio: More Ohioans requested absentee ballots than four years ago, but fewer cast votes

More Ohio voters have requested absentee ballots than four years ago, but they're taking longer to cast their votes, according to the Secretary of State's office. As of the close of business April 21, there have been 63,253 ballots cast across the state and 171,954 absentee ballots were requested. According to the

Secretary of State's office, at the same point in 2014, more than 73,000 ballots had been cast. There were about 155,000 absentee ballots requested during that frame.

### **Texas: Court Upholds Texas' Voter ID Law in Win for GOP Lawmakers**

Texas can enforce its strict photo voter ID law after a federal appeals court ruled state lawmakers fixed problems that caused the original restrictions to discriminate against poor and minority voters. A divided three-judge panel of the New Orleans federal appeals court sided with Texas on Friday.

### **Texas: Gov. Abbott wants Farenthold to cover taxpayer cost of special election to replace him in Congress**

Gov. Greg Abbott declared a special election must be held to fill Blake Farenthold's U.S. House seat, and now he wants the ex-representative to pay for it. The order followed a nonbinding opinion Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton issued saying the governor has the authority to use the disaster as the basis to declare the vacancy an emergency and hold an election before November.

### **REDISTRICTING**

### **Yahoo News: U.S. Supreme Court divided over Texas electoral district fight**

The U.S. Supreme Court on Tuesday appeared divided along ideological lines as it heard a bid by Texas to revive Republican-drawn electoral districts thrown out by a lower court for diluting the clout of black and Hispanic voters. Some of the conservative justices seemed willing during arguments in the case to accept that the Republican-led Texas legislature acted in good faith when it adopted new electoral maps in 2013 for state legislative and U.S. congressional seats.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 26, 2018 2:51 PM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin: Texas Wins Court Battle Over Voting Lines; Missouri Secretary Ashcroft testifies to Senate on Voter Fraud, Election Security

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Texas wins a [BIG redistricting case](#) at the Supreme Court and Missouri Secretary of State Ashcroft [identifies voter fraud](#) impact on elections and voter confidence as much greater threat than potential election hacking. A federal prosecution in Texas marks a big shift in policy under Attorney General Sessions as the Trump Department of Justice prosecutes its [first non-citizen voting fraud case](#). Read more in the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).

## LEAD STORY

### Supreme Court sides with Texas in redistricting map dispute

A sharply divided Supreme Court kept in place most of a controversial Texas redistricting plan enacted by the GOP-led legislature, despite lawsuits from civil rights groups claiming it was discriminatory. The case involved claims of racial gerrymandering -- that election maps had the effect of harming the voting rights of black and Hispanic voters. The 5-4 decision kept in place all but one challenged district, striking down the conclusions of a special three-judge federal panel that had ruled against the state.

## FEDERAL

### Missouri: Voter fraud much greater threat than election hacking, Missouri's Jay Ashcroft says

Missouri Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft called voter fraud "an exponentially greater threat than hacking" to the U.S. election system. But Ashcroft also testified during a hearing on Capitol Hill that his office detects 100,000 scans per day on its computer systems — possibly from hackers trying to break in. "We cannot say which of those are targeted to elections," Ashcroft told the panel of senators. "We have to treat them as if they're all targeted to elections because if they find one way in, they'll go from there to elections. So we treat them all as attacks."

### CBS: Salvadorian man indicted for immigration and voter fraud violations in East Texas

Mario Obdulio Orellana, a 57-year-old Salvadoran national, was indicted on federal immigration violations in East Texas on June 6, 2018. He was charged with two counts of false representation of U.S. citizenship, false statement in application for a passport, unauthorized use of a Social Security number, and voter fraud. He is also suspected to have fraudulently voted in the November 2016 election. Orellana could serve up to 10 years in federal prison.

## STATES

### Arizona: Voter signature fraud allegations hit unprecedented levels in Arizona campaigns

Accusations of pervasive forgery on candidate nomination petitions have spread to multiple Arizona campaigns, from two statehouse races to a primary contest for U.S. Congress. Elections officials and political consultants say such pervasive accusations of voter-signature fraud are unprecedented in recent state history.

### Colorado: Hundreds of Colorado's unaffiliated voters incorrectly returned both Democratic and Republican primary ballots

County clerks in Colorado have reported that hundreds of unaffiliated voters have failed to follow instructions, with individual voters turning in both Republican and Democratic primary election ballots rather than voting in just one of those parties' primaries.

### Kansas: Kansas is ground zero of illegal voting, yet federal judge issues reprieve

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Hundreds and perhaps thousands of non-citizens are illegally registered to vote in Kansas, a state that is at ground-zero in the conservative effort to police voter rolls and the liberal campaign to protect them.

The numbers are contained in a new study by Old Dominion University political science professor Jesse T. Richman. Mr. Richman's Kansas analysis begins with the assumption that 115,550 adult non-citizens live in the state, based U.S. Census figures.

#### **Maine: Maine's ranked-choice ballot count runs into technical problems**

Technical problems added another day to the week-long wait for the next round of ranked-choice ballot counting in Augusta. Elections officials had expected to run the tabulations on Tuesday, but problems scanning electronic records of ballots from some communities forced them to delay the count until Wednesday.

#### **Nevada: 43 double votes may prompt redo of Clark County election**

Clark County Registrar of Voters Joe Gloria is calling for a redo of a primary election decided by a razor-thin margin because 43 voters may have cast ballots twice as a result of an "unacceptable" failure in procedure by poll workers. Aaron Manfredi won the Republican primary for county administrator on June 12 by only four votes. A total of 59,032 votes were cast in that race.

#### **Nevada: Man pleads guilty to voter fraud in Nevada**

A Las Vegas man has pleaded guilty to one count of Misconduct in Signing, Filing, or Altering Petition, a category "D" felony. According to the Nevada Attorney General's Office and Secretary of State's Office, 48-year-old Patrick Duffy falsified signatures on petitions to qualify the Nevada Green Party for general election ballot access in 2016, then submitted those falsified petitions to be filed.

#### **New York: Monroe man pleads guilty to voter fraud in Bloomingburg**

A consultant to and co-defendant of real estate developers Shalom Lamm and Kenneth Nakdimen has pleaded guilty in federal court to conspiring to corrupt the electoral process, federal prosecutors said. Volvy "Zev" Smilowitz, 29, of Monroe, took the plea in U.S. District Court in White Plains, and sentencing was set for Oct. 24. Prosecutors say the trio chose to co-opt the March 2014 village election instead of trying to advance their project by legitimate means.

#### **New York: Governor's parolee voting plan does not bar sex offenders from entering schools to vote**

The restoration of voting rights for more than 24,000 paroled felons has triggered concerns that dangerous sex offenders will be entering schools to cast their ballots on election day. Gov. Andrew Cuomo, a Democrat seeking a third term this year, issued an executive order in April that made parolees eligible for conditional pardons for the intention of allowing them to participate in elections. By using his executive powers, the governor was able to bypass the Legislature.

#### **North Carolina: Republicans want lawmakers, not governor, to decide who oversees elections**

Republicans want legislative leaders to appoint all members of the state elections board, a power now held by the governor. State House GOP leaders introduced a proposal to change the North Carolina Constitution to create an eight-member State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement with all members chosen by the House speaker and the Senate leader. Voters would have to agree in November to change the constitution if the proposal wins approval in the House and Senate.

#### **Tennessee: Voter fraud in Williamson County? Counsel looking at allegations ahead of early voting**

The decision of whether two Williamson County Democratic candidates voter fraud will now rest with the Tennessee District Attorney's Conference. Back in late April, the Williamson County Election Commission sent forward allegations of voter fraud against House District 63 candidate Bill Peach and county commission candidate Anne McGraw.

#### **Texas: Texas Orders Emergency Election to Replace Convicted Democrat State Senator**

Texas Governor Greg Abbott called for an emergency special election to replace San Antonio Democrat State Senator Carlos Uresti, who resigned this week following 11 federal convictions for fraud and money laundering.

#### **Texas: Dallas Man Pleads Guilty in 2017 West Dallas Voter Fraud Investigation**

Miguel Hernandez, 28, arrested in July for illegal voting, pleaded guilty to improperly returning a marked ballot, a Class A misdemeanor, according to Johnson. Hernandez will serve 180 days in jail. A Dallas County grand jury indicted Hernandez last spring as part of an investigation into potential voter fraud in Dallas' May 2017 municipal election.

#### **Virginia: More than 400 Virginia voters assigned to new districts after state review of map errors**

Virginia election officials recently reassigned 482 voters to new congressional districts as the state continues to grapple with mapping errors that sowed confusion in several close General Assembly races last year.

### **REDISTRICTING**

#### **The Inquirer: Top Pa. Republicans appeal gerrymandering case to U.S. Supreme Court**

Pennsylvania's top two Republican lawmakers filed an appeal with the U.S. Supreme Court challenging a ruling that the state's congressional boundaries constituted a partisan gerrymander and ordered them redrawn.

#### **OneNewsNow: SCOTUS's 'partisan gerrymandering' rulings praised**

In the two cases, the high court unanimously ruled that state legislatures – not courts – have the authority to draw Congressional boundaries – except in cases where a redistricting plan targets a "racial minority for special discriminatory treatment.

#### **The American Civil Rights Union**

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 03, 2018 10:37 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACUR Election Integrity Bulletin - The Census Citizenship Question Raises Protest from Liberal Interest Groups

**The common sense decision to include a citizenship question on the Census raises protests by interest groups and ACUR continues the fight for accurate voter rolls. Read more details in the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).**

## **LEAD**

### **Judge rules in favor of Broward elections office in voter fraud lawsuit**

A federal judge Friday cleared Broward Elections Supervisor Brenda Snipes in a lawsuit that accused her office of facilitating voter fraud. U.S. District Judge Beth Bloom concluded that Snipes had a program in place “that makes a reasonable effort to remove the names of ineligible voters from the official lists of eligible voters by reason of death or change of address.”

## **FEDERAL**

### **NBC: White House stands by decision to include citizenship question on census**

Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders claims the citizenship question has been included in almost every census since 1965, and says the data from such a question is “necessary for the Department of Justice to protect voters.”

### **Free Beacon: DNC Chairman Equates Census Citizenship Question to Voter Suppression**

DNC chairman Tom Perez equated the question regarding citizenship on the U.S. Census to voter suppression during an MSNBC interview on Tuesday. Democrats have been opposed to plans by the Trump administration to reinsert a question as to whether or not the respondent was a United States citizen.

### **The Hill: Blue states sue Trump over census citizenship question**

Democratic attorneys general in several states said they would bring legal action to stop the Trump administration from adding a question on citizenship to the next U.S. census, a question they said would lead to serious undercounts that could reverberate for years to come.

### **Rasmussen Reports Polling: Americans Strongly Support Citizenship Status on Census**

A new Rasmussen Reports national telephone and online survey finds that 89% of American Adults agree it's at least somewhat important for the government to get as accurate a count of the U.S. population as possible in the U.S. Census, including 69% who say it's Very Important.

### **Thiessen: Citizenship a valid question for census**

Democrats are worried that adding a citizenship question will dampen participation in the census by illegal immigrants, reducing the total population count in the Democratic-leaning metropolitan areas where illegal immigrants are largely concentrated. This is a losing issue for Democrats.. It will further alienate millions of voters who abandoned the Democratic Party in the 2016 election.

## **STATES**

### **Arkansas: Arkansas Asks High Court to Intervene in Voter ID Lawsuit**

Arkansas is asking the state's Supreme Court to compel a judge to decide whether to block enforcement of a voter ID law.

### **New Hampshire: New Hampshire Secretary of State to Release Voter Fraud Data**

Now that New Hampshire has been comparing its voter checklists with registration rolls in 30 other states for the past year, Secretary of State Bill Gardner has a new trove of information on voter fraud that he

hopes to present to the public at some point this spring or summer.

### **New Mexico: New investigations, tighter restrictions for woman in voter fraud case**

The New Mexico Attorney General's Office has filed a motion to revoke an Española woman's conditions of release from jail while a voter fraud case against her is pending, claiming she contacted a witness after being ordered not to discuss the case with anyone who may be called to testify.

### **New Mexico: Democrat Secretary of State: Voters Are Too Stupid to Fill Out Ballots**

Democratic secretary of state in New Mexico thinks voters are incapable of filling out their ballot without help. Maggie Toulouse Oliver penned an editorial in the Albuquerque Journal advocating for the return of straight-ticket voting, which would allow voters to check one box, such as Democrat, and vote for every Democrat on the ballot. ... The true problem, Oliver explains, is voters cannot understand ballots.

### **Texas: Election contested on allegations of voter fraud, corruption, and paid 'ballot harvesting'**

In an election won by one vote has now been contested in a lawsuit filed in Kaufman County – alleging widespread voter fraud, corruption, and paid “ballot harvesting.”

### **Texas: Woman Sentenced To Five Years For Illegally Voting In 2016 Election**

A Texas woman has been sentenced to five years in prison for voting illegally in the 2016 presidential election. Crystal Mason, 43, is a convicted felon for tax fraud and illegally voted while on supervised release, the Dallas Morning News reported. Texas law prohibits felons from voting until they complete their full sentence, including supervised release.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **The Supreme Court struggles with partisan redistricting**

The problem, as Justice Alito showed, is that the Supreme Court has always held that states have a wide berth in deciding how to draw their district lines. “Hasn't this court said time and again you can't take all consideration of partisan advantage out of districting?” Under the First Amendment retaliation theory, “I really don't see how any legislature will ever be able to redistrict”, he said.

#### **The American Civil Rights Union**

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 20, 2018 9:03 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACUR Election Integrity Bulletin - The Pennsylvania State Supreme Court's Redistricting Power Play

**The political power play in Pennsylvania over redistricting raises the awareness of the issue across the country and the growing importance in state and federal legislative district races. Read the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#) for more news on Voter ID in North Dakota, Arkansas, and Michigan.**

## **LEAD**

### **Trump Is Mad As Hell With The Democrats On The Pennsylvania Supreme Court**

President Donald Trump renewed calls for the U.S. Supreme Court's intervention Saturday after Pennsylvania's highest judicial tribunal struck down the state's congressional district map, finding it was unlawfully tailored to benefit Republicans. The seven members of the Pennsylvania state Supreme Court are elected. Democrats command a five to two majority on the panel.

## **FEDERAL**

### **Washington Examiner: Redrawing America**

For the first time in more than a decade, the U.S. Supreme Court is taking a serious look at partisan gerrymandering, with two cases before the justices that could have significant impacts on the redistricting process after the 2020 census. Such a decision from the justices would particularly affect Republicans, who control a majority of state legislatures and oversee the redistricting process in those states.

## **STATES**

### **Arkansas: Voter ID law at polls faces 1st legal test**

A 7-month-old law that requires Arkansas voters to show a government-endorsed photo identification to ensure that their ballot is counted goes before a judge today for the first test of its legality.

### **Michigan: House approves list of alternative voter IDs**

Michigan would require voters who do not have a driver's license or state identification to present one of a narrow list of alternatives to cast a ballot under a bill passed by the state House Thursday.

Legislators in the lower chamber voted 62-44 Thursday on a list of permitted alternatives including other state IDs, a U.S. passport, a military photo ID or student ID.

### **North Dakota: With election nearing, state of ND asks for quick review of voter ID case**

The state of North Dakota has asked a federal judge to speed up his review in the ongoing battle over its voter identification laws as a statewide election draws closer. Judge District Court Daniel Hovland in 2016 ordered the state to supply affidavits to voters who couldn't provide an ID at the polls. State lawmakers passed a new law last year that supporters said addressed the lawsuit, and the state later asked the judge to lift the order requiring it to provide a "fail-safe" option.

### **Pennsylvania: Gubernatorial Candidate Vows to Purge Illegal Voters**

A Republican gubernatorial candidate has promised to crack down on noncitizen voting in the Keystone State, a pledge he indicated was even more important in light of Tuesday's photo finish in a special election for a congressional seat near Pittsburgh. Scott Wagner, a businessman and state senator from York County, vowed to order the Pennsylvania Department of State to audit its voter registration records and immediately remove any noncitizens from the rolls.

### **Pennsylvania: Noncitizen Voters in Pennsylvania Not a 'Glitch,' Philly Official Says**

Al Schmidt bristles at the description, often attributed to him, of noncitizen voters in Pennsylvania as a "glitch." Schmidt, a Philadelphia city commissioner who has been sounding the alarm since 2012 about

noncitizens on the voting rolls, said the word, misattributed to him, would be accurate if ineligible voters managed to elude safeguards in the motor-voter law.

### **Texas: Election Fraud Investigation Expands with Ballot Requests from Dead Voters**

New questions about dead people requesting ballots for the March Primary highlight an expanded investigation of Dallas County voter fraud that started with May municipal elections.

Dallas County Election Supervisor Toni Pippins-Poole said Tuesday that nearly 40 mail-in ballots completed and returned for counting were rejected from final tabulations. Many had signatures that did not match signatures on original voter registration applications.

### **Texas: Mail Ballot Voter Fraud Caught on Video**

A classic example of illegal mail ballot harvesting was just caught on video.

The video shows a campaign worker for State Rep. Harold Dutton (D–Houston) harvesting a voter’s mail ballot in last week’s Democrat primary.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Pennsylvania: Trump: PA redistricting 'very unfair' to Republicans**

A request to stop Pennsylvania elections officials from using a map of the state’s congressional districts produced by the state Supreme Court last month was in the hands of a three-judge federal panel, at the same time a similar effort was pending before the U.S. Supreme Court.

### **North Carolina: Battle Over North Carolina District Map Continues**

Throughout the first few months of 2018, the North Carolina congressional map drawn by Republicans has been under siege. A trial court demanded that the lines be redrawn in a matter of weeks, and Democrats across the state denounced the boundaries as the tool used by Republicans to “rig the system.” Following much deliberation, the Congressional Districts will, in fact, remain the same for the next series of elections, as the Supreme Court ruled in favor of the North Carolina Republicans.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 01, 2018 11:56 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin: Trump Addresses Voter ID & Citizenship Requirement for Voting; ACRU Briefs Supreme Court on Legislative Authority in Redistricting

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President Trump calls for [voter ID and citizenship](#) requirement for voters. Rep. Jeff Duncan of South Carolina [announced a bill](#) that would strip federal funding from states or localities that allow noncitizens to vote in their elections. [In an amicus brief](#) to the Supreme Court, the ACRU defends legislative authority over redistricting in Pennsylvania. Please read more in the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).

## LEAD

### ACRU Defends Legislative Authority over Redistricting

In a brief to the Supreme Court, ACRU defended the authority of the legislature in the redistricting process. The U.S. Constitution states that state legislatures determine the time, place, and manner of elections—which includes redistricting. But the Pennsylvania Supreme Court substituted itself for the legislature when it drew Pennsylvania's congressional districts. Two of the court's seven members expressly campaigned for office on a platform that attacked the current congressional map. They refused to recuse themselves, which is what they should have done as judges. The court also abandoned its court procedures—it promptly seized control over the lawsuit, did not hear evidence, refused to conduct a hearing, and did not even explain how it decided on its map. The map even violated the court's own legal standards. It was an extreme partisan map, it used many "tentacles" to gerrymander congressional districts, and it was widely viewed as a partisan gerrymander. In short, the Pennsylvania went far beyond its authority by imposing a proportional representation scheme. If allowed to stand, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's actions will render meaningless the term "legislature" in the U.S. Constitution.

## FEDERAL

### Daily Caller: The Myth of "Racist Voter ID laws" Refuses to Die

For Democrats, the term "voter suppression" is code for voter ID laws — the simple practice of requiring a person to show identification before they cast a vote in an election. The left has cried that Republicans are intentionally disenfranchising minorities by requiring ID to cast a ballot. The only problem is that the data shows the exact opposite and liberal activists and politicians turn a blind eye to research that highlights this fact.

### Washington Times: Liberal enclaves embrace noncitizen voting

Rep. Jeff Duncan of South Carolina announced a bill that would strip federal funding from states or localities that allow noncitizens to vote in their elections. "Allowing noncitizens to water down the voice of American citizens at the voting booth disrespects their sacrifice and the value of American citizenship," Mr. Duncan said in announcing the legislation. "Now more than ever, it is critical that we ensure only American citizens are casting ballots in this country."

## STATES

### Alabama: 11th Circuit Hears NAACP Challenge to Alabama Voter ID Law

Attorneys representing a state NAACP chapter asked the 11th Circuit on Friday to throw out a district court ruling which dismissed their challenge to Alabama's voter ID law without a trial. In January, U.S. District Judge L. Scott Coogler ruled that the 2011 law, which requires absentee and in-person voters to show photo ID in order to cast a ballot, is constitutional. Coogler found no evidence that the Alabama legislature passed the law with "racially discriminatory intent or for a racially discriminatory purpose."

Florida: Democrats attack Florida law that lists Republicans first

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The Democratic National Committee, its three congressional and legislative campaign groups and a progressive advocacy group, Priorities USA, want a federal judge to strike down Florida's 67-year-old law, which for most of that time favored Democrats, and replace it with a random system.

### **Iowa: State appeals voter ID injunction**

The Iowa Secretary of State's office announced Friday it was appealing a Polk County District Court injunction that put on hold for now three key provisions of the state's voter identification law. The early voting period for the November midterm election is restored from 29 to 40 days. Absentee voters will not be required to provide an ID number on applications for ballots.

### **New Hampshire: NH officials say college students don't have standing to sue over election law**

Six college students listed as plaintiffs in a lawsuit that challenges the Senate Bill 3 election reform bill are legally able to vote in New Hampshire and lack the standing necessary to challenge the law, New Hampshire officials said in recent court filings.

### **Nevada: Clark County wants 6 investigated for possible voter fraud**

The Nevada Secretary of State's office has launched a voter fraud investigation into six Clark County residents who voted twice during the June 12 primary election, county Registrar of Voters Joe Gloria said Tuesday. Gloria said he recommended the case to the secretary of state's office following the discovery that 43 voters may have cast ballots twice in the primary election due to a combination of technical problems and errors made by volunteer poll workers.

### **New York: Critics say pardons will give sex offenders access to schools**

Schools are generally off-limits for sex offenders, but not when it comes time to vote. A carveout in the state's criminal trespass laws allows sex offenders to enter a school for the specific purpose of voting, including school district votes and other government elections, where the school is the polling site. The issue has jumped into the public's consciousness as the result of outcry by some Republicans about conditional pardons recently issued by Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo that could speed up the restoration of voting rights for sex offenders on parole.

### **Pennsylvania: State review of voter registrations narrows list of potentially ineligible voters to 8,698**

After reviewing voter records to determine how many people — including those who were not U.S. citizens — may have been ineligible to vote when they registered, the state has narrowed the list to 8,698 people for further review, according to an analysis by the Pennsylvania Department of State.

### **Tennessee: Abolish IRV and City Runoff Provision Remain on Memphis November Ballot**

After intense lobbying by advocates of instant runoff voting, Memphis city council members doubled down Tuesday, July 24, on their decision to put a referendum on the Nov. 6 ballot that would do away with the current city charter provision calling for instant-runoff voting.

### **Texas: Woman Charged in Voter Fraud Investigation Set to Appear in Court**

A woman arrested as part of a voter fraud investigation in the city of Hidalgo will be back in court on Monday. Marciela Gutierrez is facing several charges, including illegal voting, and 10 counts of unlawful assistance to a voter. Police say the Mexican national voted in the 2016 election and allegedly cast ballots for a candidate.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Arkansas: Ballot Proposal On Redistricting Approved By Attorney General**

A ballot initiative to change state legislative and U.S. Congressional redistricting in Arkansas has been approved by the Attorney General. The Arkansas Citizens Redistricting Amendment would establish a seven-member citizens redistricting commission to replace the state Board of Apportionment, a committee made up of the governor, attorney general and secretary of state that currently draws state legislative redistricting lines.

**The American Civil Rights Union**

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 12, 2018 6:21 PM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin: US Supreme Court Upholds Ohio's Program to Clean Voter Lists, Highlights Millions of Invalid and Inaccurate Registration Records Nationally

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In a major election law ruling, the U.S. Supreme Court rules that Ohio's voter list maintenance program to identify voters that have moved to another state does not violate federal law. The Court noted that 24 million voting registrations are either invalid or significantly inaccurate, and over 2.75 million voters are registered in more than one state. Of note, the ACRU filed an [amicus brief](#) in the case with the Court arguing to uphold the law.

In other news, the former Chairman of the Federal Election Commission (FEC) admits the federal agency was biased in its enforcement against Republicans.

You cannot miss this week's [Election Integrity Bulletin](#) reviewing all the nation's election news.

## LEAD

### Ohio: Justices rule for Ohio in voter-registration dispute

The Supreme Court today rejected a challenge to one of the practices used by Ohio to remove voters from the state's voter rolls. By a vote of 5-4, the justices agreed that the practice under question – which cancels the registration of voters who do not go to the polls and who then fail to respond to a notice – does not violate federal laws governing voter registration.

### ACRU original press release and amicus brief

In this case, the American Civil Rights Union filed an amicus brief arguing that the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals was wrong to strike down Ohio's voter roll cleanup policy.

## FEDERAL

### Washington Examiner: FEC Dem who targeted Drudge admits agency biased against Republicans

A former Democratic chair of the Federal Election Commission who repeatedly rejected charges she was targeting Republicans and conservative websites like the Drudge Report has admitted that the agency has an anti-GOP bias.

### Florida Trend: EAC announces 55 percent of "Help America Vote Act" funds have been requested by 26 states

The U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) today announced that 26 states have requested \$209,638,865 in newly available funds to improve the administration of elections for Federal office, 55 percent of the total amount available.

### Business Insider: Bill Clinton says every US state should return to 'some sort of paper ballot system' to stop elections from being hacked

All US states should return to a paper ballot system because they were at too much risk from cyberterrorism, former President Bill Clinton has said. While it isn't yet clear how much of the 2016 presidential election was compromised by cyberattacks, all US citizens should return to pen and paper to vote for now, the 42nd president told the BBC on Monday. "

### Governing.com: Secretary of State Races Are More Competitive and Important Than Ever

Voter ID battles and cybersecurity concerns have intensified and elevated these races. Republicans have more seats -- and the most to lose. Currently, Republicans hold 28 secretary of state offices, and the Democrats hold 17. Of the 35 states where voters elect the secretary of state, 26 have contests this fall. As

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the party with the most offices nationally, the Republicans are at greater risk. They will have to defend a total of seven open seats, in Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Michigan, Nebraska, Ohio and South Dakota.

## **STATES**

### **California: Printing error omits 118,000 names from voting rosters in Los Angeles County**

A "printing error" omitted over a hundred thousand names from voting rosters in one of California's largest counties on Tuesday, potentially slowing the count in the state's closely watched governor's race. Officials in Los Angeles County said the error affected 118,000 voters and about a third of the county's 4,357 polling locations.

### **Georgia: Lawsuit tries to force Georgia to use paper ballots in 2018 elections**

Before this November's election, a federal judge will have to decide whether Georgia's electronic voting machines are too hackable to be used any longer. A lawsuit pending in federal court is trying to force the state government to immediately abandon its 16-year-old touchscreen machines and rely on paper ballots.

### **Iowa: Sioux City Journal - OUR OPINION: Iowa voter ID law will make good election system better**

Discriminatory, disenfranchising and dangerous were some of the words used by critics to describe voter ID - something we supported - approved by the Iowa Legislature last year. If a "soft rollout" of the new law used for Tuesday's primary election was an accurate barometer, the sky won't fall in our state because Iowa voters will be asked to produce a form of identification before casting ballots at polling places.

### **Indiana: Indiana State Police to investigate voter fraud allegations in Madison County Madison County Prosecutor**

Rodney Cummings said Thursday the state police have been asked to investigate absentee ballot applications and voter registrations that contained alleged misinformation and may have been signed by one person prior to the May 8 primary.

### **Maine: Primary results could be delayed at least 6 days while ranked-choice votes are counted**

Mainers may not learn the winners of some of Tuesday's primary elections until nearly a week later because of the logistics of the ranked-choice voting process, according to the timeline the Secretary of State's Office released Thursday.

### **North Carolina: Amendment would put voter ID in NC constitution**

House Speaker Tim Moore and other House Republicans filed a proposed constitutional amendment Thursday afternoon to enshrine a voter ID rule in the state constitution. The bill would ask voters to decide this November whether to add this paragraph to the constitution: "Photo identification for voting in person. Every person offering to vote in person shall present photo identification before voting in the manner prescribed by law."

### **North Carolina: Lawyers: North Carolina law punishing felons who vote is racist**

Five convicted felons accused of illegally voting in 2016 should have the charges against them dropped because the North Carolina law is racist, lawyers said in court filings Friday. Lawyers for the Southern Coalition for Social Justice in Durham filed requests for judges to dismiss charges against five Alamance County residents accused of voting before they regained their full citizenship rights.

### **Texas: Details emerge in fifth voter fraud arrest**

The fifth person arrested in connection to an alleged voter fraud scheme faced a justice of the peace Saturday, and two days later, his bond was reduced from \$100,000 cash surety to one that allows him to walk out of jail without posting payment. Investigators with the Texas Attorney General's Office and the Texas Rangers arrested Francisco Tamez Jr., 33, on two counts of illegal voting Friday afternoon for allegedly casting a ballot in two recent elections: the Edinburg Municipal races in November and the 2018 March Primary.

## USA Today: Census urged to exclude undocumented immigrants in congressional seat count

Alabama's attorney general urged Congress Friday to support the state's push for the Census not to count undocumented immigrants when deciding the number of congressional seats for each state.

Steve Marshall, who recently filed a lawsuit on behalf of the state, said Alabama stands to lose one of seven congressional seats and one of its nine electoral votes if undocumented immigrants aren't excluded from the apportionment process.

## Wisconsin: High stakes for elections as U.S. Supreme Court nears decision on Wisconsin redistricting case

In a decision that could come down any day, the nation's highest court will decide a lawsuit challenging that redistricting, which originated in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin. There, a three-judge panel ruled in *Whitford v. Gill* (formerly known as *Whitford v. Nichol* and later *Gill v. Whitford*) that the 2011 map was "an aggressive partisan gerrymander that was both intended and likely to persist for the life of the plan" in which the "defendants intended and accomplished an entrenchment of the Republican Party." The decision marked the first time a federal district court ruled a state legislative redistricting plan as an unconstitutional partisan gerrymander.

## Georgia: Georgia Can Use Redrawn Lines Amid Redistricting Challenge

Pending the outcome of a lawsuit alleging racial gerrymandering in two state House districts, a panel of federal judges has ruled that Georgia can continue using current district lines. The federal lawsuit says the Republican-led Legislature unconstitutionally drew the metro Atlanta districts in 2015 to increase the percentage of white voters and decrease the percentage of black voters. The majority opinion issued last week by a three-judge panel calls the evidence raised in the lawsuit "compelling" but says it falls short of documenting intent to depress black voter strength.

### The American Civil Rights Union

3213 Duke St., #625

Alexandria, VA 22314

<http://www.theacru.org>

<http://www.votingintegrityinstitute.org>

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 18, 2018 9:30 AM EDT  
**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>  
**Subject:** ACUR Election Integrity Bulletin: Weekly Roundup of Voting Integrity News

Get your weekly round up of voting and election related news with the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#) – Rank Choice Voting paralyzes Maine and Washington DC is debating whether 16 year olds should vote for President?

## FEDERAL

### **NBC News: Washington, D.C., may let 16-year-olds vote for president. Is that a good idea?**

Washington is on track to become the first place in the country to allow people as young as 16 to vote in federal elections, including for president, as the nation glimpses the emerging political power of the generation that follows millennials. Takoma Park, Maryland, just over the border from Washington, became the first jurisdiction in the country to allow 16- and 17-year-olds to vote in 2013. Since then, a handful of other progressive cities have followed, the largest being Berkeley, California.

### **Ranked Choice Voting: Maine Supreme Court comment clouds windows into ranked-choice voting's future**

A comment during supreme court arguments on ranked-choice voting offers a window into where many fear that things are headed — more legal challenges. Justice Donald Alexander questioned whether the system that lets voters rank candidates could violate the "one man, one vote" principle. His colleagues suggested that's an argument for later. The court is currently considering other constitutional questions.

But his suggestion underscores critics' worries that more lawsuits will be filed if the voting system is used in the June 12 primaries.

### **AOL: Signs of struggles on big cases as Supreme Court pace slackens**

Members of the U.S. Supreme Court appeared to be struggling over how to resolve a key case recently when Justice Stephen Breyer suggested that the best course might be to put off a decision altogether.

### **Hill: Senators, state officials to meet on election cybersecurity bill**

Two senators sponsoring legislation to secure digital election systems from cyberattacks are meeting Monday with state officials on the details of their proposal. The senators rolled out a revised version of the proposal in March, after some state officials, who are responsible for administering federal elections, expressed concerns with the effort.

## STATES

### **Maine: Legislature "paralyzed" by ranked choice voting**

Maine political analysts Phil Harriman and John Richardson say justices of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court were right to scold the legislature for not resolving problems with Ranked Choice Voting.

### **Texas: More Texas Democrats Challenge Primary Election Results over 'Voter Fraud'**

Two Texas Democrat candidates, who lost their respective races by razor-thin margins in the March 2018 Primary, are challenging results in a new lawsuit. It alleges the winning Democrats committed voter fraud in a county already fraught with investigations into alleged mail ballot irregularities.

### **Texas: White voters seek protection under the Voting Rights Act in case against Dallas County**

Are white voters in Dallas County being discriminated against? That question, which might cause some to chuckle, will be answered after a trial starting April 16 that could change the face of the voting rights struggle in America. Four white residents are suing Dallas County, claiming that the current boundaries of county commissioner districts violate their voting rights.

## **Wisconsin: Gov. Walker denies AG Schimel's claim voter ID law won 2016 election**

Attorney General Brad Schimel is claiming that some elected officials from the 2016 election only won because of Wisconsin's voter ID laws. Last week Schimel suggested to conservative radio host Vicki McKenna (WISN) that Donald Trump and Senator Ron Johnson won in Wisconsin because of its voter ID law. Governor Walker did not agree or disagree those laws in place were a factor, but did insist both won in because of how they connected with voters.

## **Virginia: Elections officials warn of group's 'confusing' mailers about registration status**

The Virginia Department of Elections says it has received numerous phone calls from concerned voters who had received "confusing mail" suggesting that their voter registration status was in question.

The mailers did not come from state elections officials.

## **REDISTRICTING**

## **Pennsylvania: GOP overhauls bill proposing independent redistricting commission**

The Pennsylvania legislature would get more control over how state legislative boundary lines are drawn under an amended bill that passed out of the House Government Committee along party lines. The original bill removed lawmakers from the process in favor of an independent citizens' commission.

## **Vox: It's harder for Democrats to gerrymander effectively**

Democrats draw favorable maps for themselves when they can, and in the future may have more state legislatures under their control to draw maps for. As recently as 2002, a Democratic-drawn map for Texas gave Democrats a majority of its US House delegation *long* after national realignment had turned it into a red state. The geographical reality, however, is that this is a game Republicans are going to play more effectively on a systematic basis.

**The American Civil Rights Union**

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Alexandria, VA 22314

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2018 8:49 AM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** ACUR Election Integrity Bulletin: WSJ proclaims "Behold Our Future Judicial Overlords"

**The Pennsylvania Supreme Court's judicial overreach got President Trump's attention and The Wall Street Journal described what it might mean: "Behold our future judicial overlords if the U.S. Supreme Court rules that partisan gerrymanders are unconstitutional." You don't want to miss this [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).**

## **LEAD**

### **Trump again urges Pennsylvania GOP to appeal new congressional map**

President Trump urged Pennsylvania Republicans for the second time to appeal a court's redrawing of the state's congressional map to the U.S. Supreme Court, blasting "Democrat judges" who designed the new map.

## **FEDERAL**

### **Minnesota voting case to be heard by Supreme Court**

During the 2012 election people wearing shirts from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology were flagged in Florida and Colorado because poll workers thought the acronym, MIT, could be seen as supporting GOP presidential nominee Mitt Romney.

### **WSJ: Pennsylvania's Redistricting Coup- Democratic judges decide they can redraw election lines.**

Political chaos has broken out in Pennsylvania after the state's high court last week redrew the congressional map for this year's midterm elections. Behold our future judicial overlords if the U.S. Supreme Court rules that partisan gerrymanders are unconstitutional.

### **Holder, Obama Redistricting group targets state races**

A group chaired by former Attorney General Eric Holder Jr. is targeting 12 states in the 2018 election — and Wisconsin is one of them. The group is focused on nine gubernatorial races, 20 legislative chambers, two ballot initiatives and two "down-ballot" races.

## **STATES**

### **Alabama: Civil Rights Groups Appeal Alabama Voter ID Ruling**

Civil rights groups are again challenging a federal judge's ruling that an Alabama law requiring a government-issued photo ID for voting is not discriminatory.

### **Arkansas: Hearing set on voter ID law challenge; Mark Martin defends law**

The 2017 legislature tinkered with the language to make the law change appear to apply to voter registration procedures, which are covered in a separate part of the Constitution, but the lawsuit argues that the law still presents a new obstacle to voting, which the Constitution prohibits. The membership of the Arkansas Supreme Court has changed dramatically since the last ruling, however.

### **Florida: Hundreds of Fort Lauderdale voters had no say; their mailed-in ballots arrived too late**

Nearly 8 percent of those who voted by mail in Fort Lauderdale's January municipal election didn't get the say they expected. Their ballots — 578 of them — arrived too late to be counted.

### **New Hampshire: NH says No One Suffered Injuries from Voter Fraud Law**

New Hampshire officials on Tuesday urged a judge to dismiss a lawsuit challenging a state law that requires additional documentation from voters who move to the state within 30 days of an election, suggesting it wasn't harming anyone.

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000084



**Texas: Starr County's Special Crimes Unit arrested four more suspects in an ongoing investigation of voter fraud in the Rio Grande Valley.**

South Texas authorities arrested four people for illegally voting in elections in 2016.

**Wyoming: GOP selects 3 finalists for Secretary of State**

The Wyoming Republican Party selected a former Wyoming Speaker of the House, a local attorney and a Cody farmer as the three finalists for Secretary of State.

**REDISTRICTING**

**Pennsylvania: Top Pa. Republicans ask U.S. Supreme Court to block new map**

Republicans have intensified their fight over Pennsylvania's new congressional map, appealing to the nation's highest court and reviving talk of impeaching the state Democratic Supreme Court justices who threw out the old map.

**Pennsylvania: New Pa. congressional district map could be challenged by Common Cause, NAACP on civil rights grounds**

Micah Sims, executive director of Common Cause Pennsylvania, said his organization and the state NAACP are considering filing suit in federal court to challenge the new map imposed by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court this week.

**The American Civil Rights Union**

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**From:** Tom Fitton <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 31, 2019 9:24 AM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Best bet to get to the truth

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Judicial Watch

Dear Fellow American,

I hope you share our commitment to fighting public corruption and standing firm for the rule of law. [I also hope you will back that commitment with your best tax-deductible contribution to Judicial Watch today.](#)

Because right now we are in a historic time of big changes in Washington as Judicial Watch is helping “drain the swamp” by:

- Investigating and suing key federal agencies for documents related to the corrupt and lawless Deep State conspiracy to spy on, discredit, prosecute and drive President Trump from office. We’ve already forced the release of key documents exposing the Deep State, and we are now pursuing over 30 active lawsuits...[with more surely to come!](#)
- Challenging liberal “sanctuary” cities and states which, despite Trump administration efforts, continue to disobey the law by refusing to cooperate with federal immigration authorities.
- Fighting voter fraud, which liberals want to pretend doesn’t exist but which we have proven through our investigations and litigation most certainly does exist! Judicial Watch supports voter ID laws and has federal lawsuits to ensure cleaner elections.
- Holding corrupt officials, like Hillary Clinton, responsible for their illegal actions so they don’t get a “pass” on accountability. Despite continued stonewalling by Deep State government lawyers in court, we continue to force the release of blockbuster documents that shed more light on the Clinton email scandal, and the sleazy Clinton “pay to play” scheme to tie the State Department favors to for contributions to the Clinton Foundation.

***Judicial Watch is America’s best (some would say only) bet to get to the truth.*** But we cannot do it without you! We’re already carrying the largest investigation and litigation caseload in our 24-year history.

This is all critically important work.

You may remember that we successfully led the fight against Obama administration secrecy and corruption as well as corruption by members of both parties – Democrat and Republican.

[And for us to be fully prepared and effective at this critical time, we need you to be an official “card-carrying” Judicial Watch member by making your best donation now!](#)

We are literally doing the law enforcement work that the highly compromised FBI, mainstream liberal media and weak Congress [won’t](#) do.

[That’s why I ask you to support our work today.](#) It is no exaggeration to say that it is not only Judicial Watch who needs you...so does America!

Sincerely,

Thomas Fitton  
President

---

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Washington, DC 20024

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**From:** JW Inside Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Thursday, January 31, 2019 4:46 PM EST

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** Chuck Ross: Indictments against Roger Stone are 'Watered Down,' Don't Involve Conspiracy w/ Russia

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**Chuck Ross: Indictments  
against Roger Stone are  
'Watered Down,' Don't Involve  
Conspiracy with Russia**

□

In this episode of "Judicial Watch Inside Report," Chuck Ross, an investigative reporter for *The Daily Caller*, discusses the recent indictments against political operative Roger Stone in relation to alleged collusion between Trump & Russia during the 2016 election.



[PR01](#)

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**From:** Tom Fitton <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 30, 2019 9:06 AM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Clinton emails found in Obama White House

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Judicial Watch

Dear Fellow American,

Judicial Watch is carrying the largest caseload of active lawsuits and investigations in our 25-year history, we're fighting for accountability and government transparency on many fronts – but *what counts the most is that you'll see we're making important headway.*

**[That's why I am asking you to make a special tax-deductible contribution now to support Judicial Watch.](#)**

Contribute

The two year long Mueller investigation has exonerated the president of collusion with Russia...and we are going to make sure that the American people learn all the facts about this unlawful Deep State effort to destroy his presidency, and that those responsible are held to account!

**And on top of that...**

We got a senior FBI official to admit, in writing and under oath, that the agency found Clinton email records in the Obama White House, specifically, the Executive Office of the President.

**[I'm counting on you to help](#)** because the Left (*aided and abetted by the Deep State*) is on a lawless full-scale attack against *not only* President Trump and his team, but also against honest elections and our federal laws against illegal immigration.

That's why our nation urgently needs Judicial Watch's nonpartisan, independent commitment to supporting government transparency, full accountability and the rule of law.

And I can tell you right now that there are many Leftist challenges to the rule of law that only Judicial Watch has the expertise and proven track record to confront.

**[The current government transparency crisis is serious enough that I feel compelled to ask you to consider making a special donation today.](#)**

I know you share our commitment to holding corrupt politicians in both parties accountable under the law, and I know you want us to help "drain the swamp" in Washington. That's why I sincerely hope you will renew your support of Judicial Watch now. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Tom Fitton  
President

P.S. **[Help drain the swamp of corruption in Washington DC today with your best tax-deductible contribution to Judicial Watch now.](#)**

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**From:** JW Action <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 28, 2019 3:44 PM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Cohen testimony against Trump unethical – Dems commit abuse of power

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*“Michael Cohen is a criminal and Michael Cohen is a political prop. Michael Cohen is the furthest thing from a victim. Today, we witnessed history. Unfortunately for the reputation of the House, it is the type of history that will live in infamy.”*

*Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton*

*Fox News Op-Ed*

Dear Judicial Watch Supporter,

As is so often the case, Judicial Watch's breviloquent Tom Fitton, summed up the very essence of yesterday's Michael Cohen congressional testimony in a single word:

“Shameful.”

In the attached [Fox News op-ed](#), Tom lays out why Cohen's vicious, deceptive, and politically contrived performance will “live in infamy”:

Cohen's testimony is not credible, and he has a demonstrated record of not only lying to Congress but violating his ethical duties as a lawyer. Cohen's testimony not only abused Mr. Trump's rights but Congress benefitted from this abuse and arguable obtained confidential documents belonging to Mr. Trump in violation of its own rules, President Trump's rights, and the law.

For many of us of a religious bent, watching Mr. Cohen abusively deny the who had befriended him and had paid his way for more than a decade, quite simply, left us waiting for the cock to crow.

Sincerely,

Carter L. Clews  
Director of Communications

ACT01

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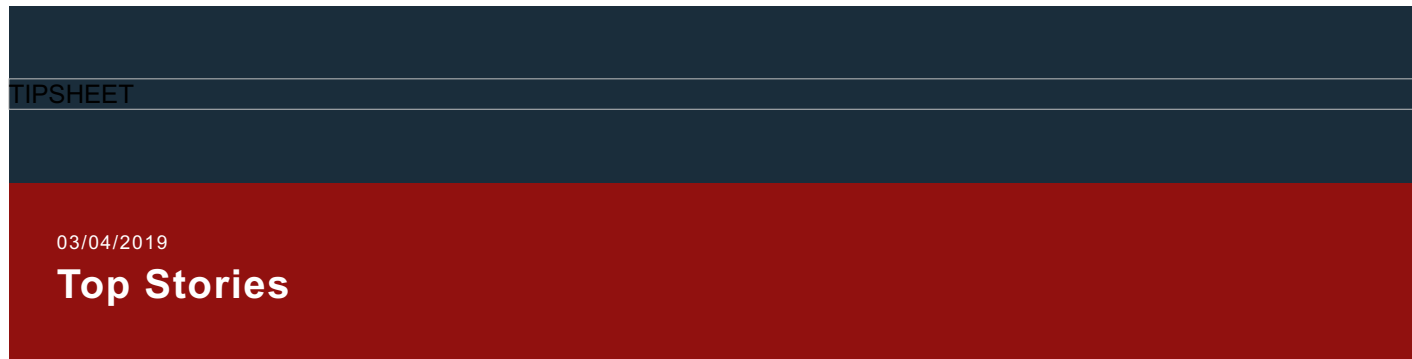
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**From:** JW Tipsheet <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 04, 2019 10:52 AM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Congress Abuses President Trump

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### Congress Abuses President Trump

If you watched the Democrat's little circus this week in front of the House Oversight Committee, you may have been alternately angered and amused. The Cohen hearing was an echo of the Kavanaugh hearings. It was a blatant misuse of that hallowed room in the Capitol...

 [READ MORE](#)



### JW President Tom Fitton to be Featured at CPAC

Judicial Watch today announced that Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton is scheduled to be interviewed by the Washington Examiner's Byron York along with Congressman Devin Nunes (R-CA) on the main stage Friday, March 1, at 8:20 am ET at CPAC (Conservative Political Action Conference)...

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### Highway of Tears (The Murders in Indian Country)

In January, Judicial Watch published a short report, "The Murders in Indian Country," outlining the shocking rate of murders

and assaults inflicted on Native American and Alaska Native women...

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IMAGE

## 702,000 Overstay Visa Nearly Two Decades after Terrorists Did it to Execute 9/11

Nearly two decades after Islamic terrorists exploited the U.S. government's inept system for tracking visa overstays, more than 700,000 foreigners with expired visas remain at large in the country...

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## Must Read

**Cohen testimony against Trump unethical – Dems commit abuse of power– Fox News–** Congress and the corrupt Washington Establishment set a new low for abuse of power Wednesday with the testimony of Michael Cohen before the House Oversight and Reform Committee... [Read more](#)

Keep our investigators on the job uncovering the truth:

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**Clinton-Obama figures exposed as instigators in Trump-Russia probe– Washington Times-** As Wednesday's explosive Michael Cohen hearing illustrated, a number of Clinton–Obama figures have been instigators in the Justice Department's 33-month-long Russia probe of President Trump and his family... [Read more](#)

## Must Watch

**Tom Fitton: Mueller Should not Write Another Anti-Trump Dossier- March 2, 2019-** [Watch Now!](#)

**JW Coverage of CPAC 2019- February 28, 2019-** [Watch Now!](#)

**Tom Fitton Slams Adam Schiff's Threat to Subpoena Mueller- February 26, 2019-** [Watch Now!](#)

**Tom Fitton @ #CPAC2019: 'President Trump is a Victim of Illegal Targeting by the Obama Admin'- March 1, 2019-** [Watch Now!](#)

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Daywatch Updates

AMERICAN  
OVERSIGHT

FL DUVAL 19-0522-A-000094

IMAGE

### Tom Fitton: At this Point, Mueller Probe is ‘Harassment’

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Fox & Friends First” weighed in on the special counsel probe’s impact over the last year and what it could mean for Mueller’s final report, reportedly expected by February.

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IMAGE

### Chris Farrell: FBI’s Strzok was Incredibly Disingenuous During Testimony

JW Director of Investigations and Research Chris Farrell appeared on “Lou Dobbs Tonight” on the Fox Business Network to discuss President Trump’s rally in North Dakota and FBI official Peter Strzok’s testimony on Capitol Hill.

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**From:** JW Newslink <press@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 15, 2019 12:35 PM EST

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** Conservative Groups Targeted in Lois Lerner's IRS Scandal Receive Settlement Checks

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NEWSLINK

## BREAKING NEWS...

600x300

### Conservative Groups Targeted in Lois Lerner's IRS Scandal Receive Settlement Checks

Source: [The Daily Signal](#)

The federal government in recent days has been issuing settlement checks to 100 right-of-center groups wrongfully targeted for their political beliefs under the Obama administration's Internal Revenue Service.

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## Background Notes from Judicial Watch

180x150x1

2018-06-21

**IRS Documents  
Reveal McCain's  
Subcommittee Staff  
Director Urged IRS  
to Engage in  
"Financially  
Ruinous" Targeting**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000097

Judicial Watch today released newly obtained internal IRS documents, including material revealing that Sen. John McCain's former staff director and chief counsel on the Senate Homeland Security Permanent Subcommittee, Henry Kerner, urged top IRS officials, including then-director of exempt organizations Lois Lerner, to "audit so many that it becomes financially ruinous." Kerner was appointed by President Trump as Special Counsel for the United States Office of Special Counsel.

 [READ MORE](#)

180x150x2

2014-09-04

**Anatomy of a  
Government  
Conspiracy:  
Obama's IRS  
Scandal**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Here is a timetable of the IRS' abuse of its power in targeting Tea Party groups.

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180x150x3

2015-04-09

**Judicial Watch: IRS  
Documents Reveal  
Lerner Knew  
Targeting Criteria of  
Nonprofit Groups  
'Might Raise  
Questions'**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

IRS documents include an email from former IRS official Lois Lerner in February 2012 asking that a program be set up to “put together some training points to help them [IRS staffers] understand the potential pitfalls” of revealing too much information to Congress. The documents also contain a Lerner email from 2013 in which she says she is willing to take the blame on some aspects of the scandal.

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## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: Steele was Working for the Clinton Camp to Target President Trump

August 10, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Hannity” on the Fox News Channel to discuss Judicial Watch lawsuits for DOJ for access to communications between Bruce Ohr, Christopher Steele and Fusion GPS.

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### Join us on JW Podcast!

Join us on JW podcast to listen to Tom Fitton on Judicial Watch's Weekly Update!

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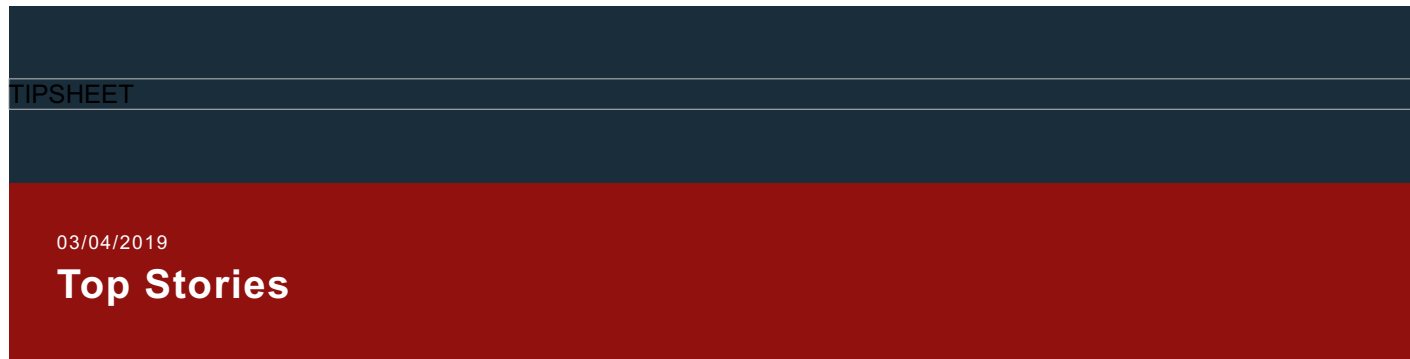
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**From:** JW Tipsheet <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2019 1:10 PM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Court Victory Against Deep State FBI

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IMAGE

### Court Victory Against Deep State FBI

A petulant child or employee will perform a task halfway and wait to see if he can get away with it. Such seems to be the strategy of the entire Deep State bureaucracy. The FBI is particularly good at this, and we are particularly good at calling them on it. Luckily for the American people we have judges who respect the Freedom of Information Act...

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IMAGE

### JW White Paper Makes Case to Designate Mexican Cartels as Foreign Terrorist Organizations

As the Trump administration considers designating Mexican drug cartels as Foreign Terrorist Organizations (FTO), Judicial Watch provides comprehensive documentation that the sophisticated criminal operations meet the U.S. government's requirements to make the list...

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IMAGE

### Study: Judicial Watch is Number One on FOIA

Judicial Watch announced today that since 2001 it has led all nonprofit organizations in filing Freedom of Information Act

(FOIA) lawsuits, according to figures released late last year by The FOIA Project of Syracuse University..

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## Judicial Watch Announces Depositions of Senior Obama-era Officials and Former Hillary Clinton Aides

Judicial Watch announced today a schedule of depositions of senior Obama-era State Department officials, lawyers, and Clinton aides who have been ordered by the court to provide answers under oath to Judicial Watch's questions about the Benghazi and Clinton email scandals....

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## Must Read

**Judicial Watch: The nation's FOIA champion**—One conservative government watchdog is a busy place indeed. Judicial Watch leads the nation's nonprofit organizations in the number of Freedom of Information Act requests — FOIAs — it has filed during the last 17 years... [Read more](#)

**Judicial Watch Files Ethics Complaint Against Adam Schiff**— Conservative government transparency group Judicial Watch filed an official complaint with the Office of Congressional Ethics against House Intelligence Chairman Adam Schiff... [Read more](#)

**Get Your Popcorn: Judicial Watch to Interview Susan Rice, Ben Rhodes and Slew of Other Obama Officials Under Oath**—Government watchdog Judicial Watch is set to interview former White House National Security Advisor Susan Rice and Deputy National Security Advisor Ben Rhodes about Benghazi and Hillary Clinton's illegal email server.... [Read more](#)

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## Must Watch

On Watch: How Donald Trump was Targeted by the FBI – March 13, 2019- [Watch Now](#)

Tom Fitton's Video Weekly Update – March 15, 2019- [Watch Now](#)

Tom Fitton: Key FBI Officials Were 'Bending over Backwards' to Protect Hillary Clinton- [Watch Now](#)

Tom Fitton: 'Ethics Scandal for Adam Schiff' over Collaborating with Michael Cohen on House Testimony- [Watch Now](#)

## Daywatch Updates

IMAGE

### Clinton Aide Abedin Secured State Dept. Lunch Invitation for Major Clinton Foundation Donor

Hillary Clinton top aide Huma Abedin secured an invitation to a 2009 State Department luncheon for Sant S. Chatwal, a businessman under investigation in two countries and was also a Clinton Foundation trustee and contributor.

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IMAGE

### Comey's private memos on Trump conversations contained classified material

More than half of the memos former FBI chief James Comey wrote as personal recollections of his conversations with President Trump about the Russia investigation have been determined to contain classified information, according to interviews with officials familiar with the documents. This revelation raises the possibility that Comey broke his own agency's rules .

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**From:** JW Corruption Chronicles <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 20, 2019 3:40 PM EST

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** DC Mayor Gives Open Borders Group \$100,000 to Help Immigrants Become Citizens

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CORRUPTION CHRONICLES

## DC Mayor Gives Open Borders Group \$100,000 to Help Immigrants Become Citizens

Months after spending [\\$900,000](#) to supply immigrants and their families with “targeted services and resources,” the mayor of Washington DC is giving an open borders group \$100,000 to provide English classes, legal consultants and workshops to help them become American citizens. The mayor, Muriel Bowser, [proudly announced](#) this month that the taxpayer allocation “represents the largest such government fund in the nation.” The money will help pay for projects that collaborate with employers to assist immigrant workers with the citizenship process by also hosting seminars, and individual legal consults. “Together, we’re giving more immigrants in our community a fair shot at citizenship,” Mayor Bowser said, bragging about similar programs funded with DC taxpayer dollars. “This grant builds on the work we have done through our Immigrant Justice Legal Services grant program and through the monthly citizenship workshops; it’s an example of how we can work together as a community and use local resources to break down barriers to citizenship.”

Last summer the mayor launched the \$900,000 [Immigrant Justice Legal Services \(IJLS\) Grant Program](#) to provide legal services for illegal aliens at risk of being deported under the Trump administration’s stricter immigration policies. The money goes to leftist groups that provide “know your rights” workshops, legal briefings, trainings, mentorships and legal assistance. The program is the first of its kind in Washington DC. The goal, according to Bowser, is to help illegal aliens “navigate a challenging political climate and thrive in our community.” The mayor claims it has “helped bring our DC values to life and has made us a safer stronger DC” by providing immigrants with the knowledge and resources they need to understand their rights. Under the plan, leftist “community-based organizations” receive grants of up to \$150,000 to help immigrants.

The recent \$100,000 allocation is going to a group called [National Immigration Forum](#) that advocates “lawful permanent residence” for the nation’s estimated 11.4 million illegal immigrants. The nonprofit supports “commonsense immigration, citizenship and integration policies” and helps businesses assist immigrant employees with the citizenship process by focusing on “English language learning” to help immigrants become full participants in the workplace, community and economy. “Statistics show a direct correlation between immigrant integration and happier, more effective workers — which directly impacts business profitability,” National Immigration Forum claims. The group’s executive director, Ali Noorani, says the DC taxpayer dollars will help new Americans reach their full potential. “We are proud to partner with Mayor Bowser on this initiative that’s a win-win for Washington, DC, businesses and employees alike,” Noorani said.

DC has long protected illegal immigrants from federal authorities by offering them sanctuary and banning local law enforcement officers from inquiring about suspects’ immigration status. In 2011 DC’s scandal-plagued mayor, Vincent Gray, signed an [executive order](#) making it official by forbidding police and other city agencies from asking about immigration status. The order also guarantees that local law enforcement officials will not detain illegal aliens, report them to federal agencies or even make them available for federal immigration interviews without a court order. As mayor Gray, who still serves on DC’s council despite being embroiled in a multitude of corruption scandals, also introduced a bill give [illegal immigrants driver’s licenses](#).

A few years ago, DC tried to pass a measure that would [allow non-U.S. citizens](#) to vote in elections. One of the DC councilmen behind the bill, Tommy Wells, said the law was necessary because area residents know all too well what it

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000105

means to be denied equal voting rights in the United States. “It goes without question that every resident of DC deserves a vote and a voice in our local government,” said Wells, who currently works in the Bowser administration as DC department of Energy and Environment Director.

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: Democrats in Congress on a ‘fishing expedition’ for President Trump

February 7, 2019- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on One America News Network to discuss the Democrat-controlled Congress opening investigations into President Trump.

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Article-Image

### Chris Farrell: DOJ’s Bruce Ohr is the ‘Lynchpin’ in the Trump Dossier

August 17, 2018- JW Director of Investigations and Research Chris Farrell appeared on “Lou Dobbs Tonight” on the Fox Business Network to discuss why the Trump dossier circles around DOJ official Bruce Ohr.

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**From:** JW Newslink <press@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 9:33 AM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Democrats Offer Plan to Release All Child Traffickers at Border into U.S.

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NEWSLINK

BREAKING NEWS...

600x300

**Democrats Offer Plan to Release All Child Traffickers at Border into U.S.**

Source: [American Thinker](#)

The problem is that it incentivizes not just illegal immigration, but child-trafficking. That is going to lead not just to more unwed mothers and their kids making illegal entry, but to cartel members ramping up their child kidnapping and human-trafficking operations, given that nobody has to prove that that baby on her hip is actually hers.

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Background Notes from Judicial Watch

180x150x1

2018-07-10  
**Judicial Watch: New  
HHS Documents  
Reveal that  
'Unaccompanied  
Alien Children'  
Processed During**



**Obama Years  
Included Violent  
Criminals, Drug  
Smugglers, and  
Human Traffickers**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Judicial Watch today released 224 pages of documents containing nearly 1,000 summaries of Significant Incident Reports (SIRs) from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) revealing that “Unaccompanied Alien Children” (UAC) processed during the Obama administration included admitted murderers, rapists, drug smugglers, prostitutes, and human traffickers.

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180x150x2

2018-10-25

**Guatemalan  
Authorities Rescue  
Group of Minors  
from Human  
Smugglers in  
Caravan**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Judicial Watch has obtained exclusive information and photos from Guatemalan authorities revealing that they have recovered seven unaccompanied minors from human smugglers working inside the caravan.

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180x150x3

2018-10-24

**“Elaborately  
Planned” Caravan  
Brings Human  
Traffickers & Violent  
Gangbangers to  
Guatemala**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

The migrant caravan marching northbound through Central America is an “elaborately planned” movement that’s benefiting human smugglers and bringing disturbing numbers of violent gang members and other criminal elements through Guatemala.

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## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: Giuliani Helped Prove Mueller Investigation is Political

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Lou Dobbs Tonight” on the Fox Business Network to discuss Trump attorney Rudy Giuliani’s statement that Special Counsel Robert Mueller won’t indict President Trump.

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### Tom Fitton on WMAL: Federal Court SLAMS Deep State Dishonesty on Clinton Emails

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Mornings on the Mall” to discuss the latest developments on a recent court hearing about the Clinton email scandal.

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**From:** JW Tipsheet <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 28, 2019 10:40 AM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Documents Detail Nancy Pelosi's \$185,000 CODEL to Italy and Ukraine in 2015

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TIPSHEET

01/28/2019

Top Stories



**Documents Detail Nancy Pelosi's \$185,000 CODEL to Italy and Ukraine in 2015**

Judicial Watch announced today that it obtained documents through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the Air Force detailing \$134,587.81 plus \$50,000 for an advance of funds for an “escort officer” for a total of \$184,587.81 for then-House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi’s (D-CA) Congressional delegation (CODEL) to Italy and Ukraine in 2015...

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**Senate Ethics Committee Gives Sen. Cory Booker a Pass for Purposely Violating Rules**

Judicial Watch announced today that the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Ethics has refused to take action against Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ), who admitted to willfully violating Senate rules by releasing confidential records regarding then-Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh’s time as a White House counsel...

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**U.S. Combats Child Marriage Abroad, Grants Thousands of Spousal Visas for Immigrant Kids**

While the U.S. government advances policies to prevent child marriage in foreign countries it approves thousands of

petitions filed by Americans seeking spouse or fiancé visas for children born abroad...

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IMAGE

## Weekly Update: Air Pelosi Exposed

Nancy Pelosi's plan to fly into a war zone to thank the troops, which President Trump put on hold, was déjà vu all over again. We've been watching her taxpayer-supported travel for years. I discuss our prior work here in an op-ed for Fox News...

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## Must Read

**Tom Fitton: 'Air Pelosi' – Fox News**– When President Trump denied House Speaker Nancy Pelosi use of a military aircraft for a CODEL (congressional delegation trip) to Afghanistan recently, he called the public's attention to wasteful taxpayer-funded congressional travel... [Read more](#)

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**Senate cravenly fails to rebuke Cory Booker for 'Spartacus' moment**– *Washington Examiner*– Lest some poor soul actually believe the Senate cares about ethics, the Senate Select Committee on Ethics has now disabused them of that notion... [Read more](#)

**New docs reveal the extent of Pelosi's CODEL travel abuses**– *The Blaze*– House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's use of military aircraft came under scrutiny last week after President Donald Trump cancelled her congressional delegation trip to Belgium, Egypt, and Afghanistan... [Read more](#)

## Must Watch

**Tom Fitton: Pelosi Abuses Use of Military Luxury Travel**– January 25, 2019- [Watch Now!](#)

**Tom Fitton: DOJ and FBI Hijacked for Political Purposes Against President Trump**- January 24, 2019- [Watch Now!](#)

**Tom Fitton: Mueller is Illicitly Targeting & Harassing President Trump**- January 13, 2019- [Watch Now!](#)

**Inside Judicial Watch: Our Top 5 Investigations of 2018**- January 17, 2019- [Watch Now!](#)

**Tom Fitton: Time to Investigate Mueller...Secure the Border NOW**- January 25, 2019- [Watch Now!](#)

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## Daywatch Updates

IMAGE

### Tom Fitton: "Netflix Doubles down in support of Obama Corruption"

Former national security adviser and U.S. Ambassador Susan Rice now has a new role on Netflix's board of directors, appearing to follow her former boss who is in reported "advanced negotiations" to create a series of shows with the streaming giant. The company made the announcement on Wednesday, with Netflix co-founder and CEO Reed Hastings praising her prior work on intelligence issues for former President Barack Obama.

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Join us on JW podcast to listen to Tom Fitton on Judicial Watch's Weekly Update!

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**From:** JW Newslink <press@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 05, 2019 5:02 PM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** DOJ Prevented FBI From Pursuing Gross Negligence Charges Against Clinton

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NEWSLINK

BREAKING NEWS...

600x300

**EXCLUSIVE: DOJ Prevented FBI From Pursuing Gross Negligence Charges Against Clinton**

Source: [The Epoch Times](#)

The Justice Department (DOJ), under then-Attorney General Loretta Lynch, decided to set an unusually high threshold for prosecuting Clinton, effectively ensuring from the outset that she would not be charged.

 [READ MORE](#)

Background Notes from Judicial Watch

180x150x1

2016-10-28  
**Judicial Watch Files  
Lawsuit for FBI  
Records on Clinton  
Email Investigation;  
Tarmac Meeting  
Between Bill Clinton  
and Loretta Lynch**  
Source: [Judicial Watch](#)



Judicial Watch announced today that it filed a Freedom of Information (FOIA) lawsuit to obtain Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) records relating to its “investigation of former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton’s use of a non-government email server during her tenure.” The lawsuit includes a demand for FBI “302” documents, which are reports of FBI investigation interviews.

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2018-06-14

**Judicial Watch  
Issues Statement on  
DOJ IG Report on  
Clinton Email  
Investigation**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton: The IG report has destroyed the credibility of the Department of Justice and the FBI. It confirms what Judicial Watch has investigated and revealed for nearly two years. The Obama DOJ/FBI investigation of Clinton was rushed, half-baked, rigged, and irredeemably compromised by anti-Trump and pro-Clinton bias and actions.

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2018-11-30

**Judicial Watch Sues**

**Over Obama DOJ  
Effort to Shut Down  
Clinton Foundation  
Investigation**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Judicial Watch filed a FOIA lawsuit against the Department of Justice for all communications involving any investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) into the Clinton Foundation. "The record shows the Obama Justice Department suppressed a public corruption investigation into the Clinton Foundation," said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton.

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## Daywatch Updates

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### Tom Fitton: At this Point, Mueller Probe is 'Harassment'

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on "Fox & Friends First" weighed in on the special counsel probe's impact over the last year and what it could mean for Mueller's final report, reportedly expected by February.

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Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: At Least 11 FBI Payments went to Steele

August 5, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "Fox and Friends" on the Fox News Channel to discuss The FBI released 71 pages of redacted documents tied to the bureau's relationship with Christopher Steele.

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**From:** JW Newslink <press@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2019 1:42 PM EDT

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** DOJ reached agreement with Clinton lawyers to block FBI access to Clinton Foundation emails, Strzok says

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## BREAKING NEWS...

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### DOJ reached agreement with Clinton lawyers to block FBI access to Clinton Foundation emails, Strzok says

Source: [Fox News](#)

The Justice Department "negotiated" an agreement with Hillary Clinton's legal team that ensured the FBI did not have access to emails on her private servers relating to the Clinton Foundation, former FBI special agent Peter Strzok testified.

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## Background Notes from Judicial Watch

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2019-02-11

**FBI General Counsel**

**Talked to Hillary**

**Clinton's Lawyer**

**about Comey's**

**Letter on Weiner**

**Laptop Clinton**

**Emails**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

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Judicial Watch received 215 pages of records from the U.S. Department of Justice revealing former FBI General Counsel James Baker discussed the investigation of Clinton-related emails on Anthony Weiner's laptop with Clinton's lawyer, David Kendall. Baker then forwarded the conversation to his FBI colleagues.

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2018-06-14

**Judicial Watch  
Issues Statement on  
DOJ IG Report on  
Clinton Email  
Investigation**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton: "The IG report has destroyed the credibility of the Department of Justice and the FBI. It confirms what Judicial Watch has investigated and revealed for nearly two years. The Obama DOJ/FBI investigation of Clinton was rushed, half-baked, rigged, and irredeemably compromised by anti-Trump and pro-Clinton bias and actions."

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2018-11-30

**Judicial Watch Sues  
Over Obama DOJ  
Effort to Shut Down**

## Clinton Foundation

### Investigation

Source: Judicial Watch

Judicial Watch filed a FOIA lawsuit against the Department of Justice for all communications involving any investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) into the Clinton Foundation. "The record shows the Obama Justice Department suppressed a public corruption investigation into the Clinton Foundation," said Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton.

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### Tom Fitton: A DOJ Spying Investigation would be a Win for the Rule of Law

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "Fox and Friends" on the Fox News Channel to discuss President Trump's request for a DOJ probe into whether the FBI infiltrated his campaign.

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### Tom Fitton on WMAL: Federal Court SLAMS Deep State Dishonesty on Clinton Emails

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "Mornings on the Mall" to discuss the latest developments on a recent court hearing about the Clinton email scandal.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 18, 2018 10:00 AM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: Experts Say No Campaign Finance Violations by Trump; North Carolina Gov. Vetoes New Voter ID Bill; Virginia asks Supreme Court To Review Redistricting Case

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Experts say there were [no campaign finance violations made by Trump](#). [North Carolina Governor Cooper vetoes new voter ID bill](#) and General Assembly prepares to override the veto. Virginia asks the Supreme Court to [review redistricting case](#) before 2020. Rep. Lamar Smith of Texas warns Republicans that [Google will have dramatic impact on elections](#). Read all about it in [this week's EIB](#).

## LEAD

### Daily Signal: Trump's Ex-Lawyer Didn't Violate Campaign Finance Laws, and Neither Did the President

President Donald Trump's former attorney, Michael Cohen, may have been convinced by the Office of the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York to plead guilty to a supposed violation of campaign finance law, but that doesn't mean that what happened is actually a federal crime. In fact, neither the Federal Election Commission—which is the independent agency tasked with enforcing the Federal Election Campaign Act—nor its former commissioners would likely agree with the overaggressive view that the Southern District is taking. Indeed, the Southern District's aggressive stance on this issue might have violated the Justice Department's own policy.

## FEDERAL

### Breitbart: Rep. Lamar Smith: Google Will Have 'Dramatic Impact' on Elections

Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX) joined *Breitbart News Daily* on Thursday to talk about Google CEO Sundar Pichai's recent hearing in front of the House Judiciary Committee. Smith said that if Google continues on the same course, it will end up "skewing elections." Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX) challenged Google CEO Sundar Pichai during a recent hearing in front of the House Judiciary Committee on the topic of political censorship on the Google platforms, namely their search engine. During the hearing, Pichai and Smith went back and forth about whether or not Google employees can manipulate the Google search engine to favor "ideologically-friendly" sites and disfavor other conservative sites. PICHAI: "It is not possible for an individual employee or groups of employees to manipulate our search results. We have a robust framework, including many steps in the process." SMITH: "I disagree, I think humans can manipulate the process. It is a human process at its base." "I think what you see is an unwillingness by the head of Google to directly answer questions. We never really got a direct answer. He could never really explain why so many results of internet searches were in fact slanted against conservatives or Republicans or the President or the Vice President," Smith said during his appearance on *Breitbart News Daily* on Thursday.

### Courthouse News Service: Census Citizenship Question Spat Headed to Trial in San Francisco

A lawsuit claiming the Trump administration used a false motive to justify adding a census question that could weaken the political power of Democratic strongholds must go to trial next month, a federal judge ruled Friday. In a 17-page order, U.S. District Judge Richard Seeborg said he needs a bench trial to weigh the credibility of statements made by U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross and other officials to determine if Ross "had a valid basis for adding the citizenship question."

## STATES

### California: The Archaic Way California Reports Election Night Results Fuels Suspicions of Fraud, Critics Charge

The morning after the Nov. 6 congressional midterm election in California, state, county and media websites reported that 100 percent of precincts had turned in their results. It was highly misleading: The final tally, released Friday, showed that a staggering 5.2 million of the 12.1 million ballots cast — 43



percent — remained uncounted that morning. Most of the outstanding votes were from mail ballots. The website charts listing results from “100 percent” of the precincts feed public mistrust in the counting despite California’s stringent protections of ballot integrity, said Mindy Romero, the director of the University of Southern California’s California Civic Engagement Project, a nonpartisan research center in Sacramento.

### **California: Some California Voter Records Possibly Switched From Poll to Mail Ballots, Says Nonprofit**

Some Californians who were listed as poll voters in county data were classified as voting by mail in state records for the June primary election. This could be a major concern for the state’s election process, nonprofit Election Integrity Project California (EIPCa) has said. The non-partisan volunteer group found that more than 97,000 voters in Los Angeles County alone who were classified as going to the polls in person were listed as voting by mail in state records. The group believes a similar issue may have affected the November mid-term elections. “I don’t know if it’s a software glitch or something else,” Ellen Swensen, co-founder and chief analyst of EIPCa, told The Epoch Times. “This may be related to provisional voting, but they should match. The bottom line is that illogical data differences like this prevent EIPCa from independently validating the results of our elections, and that should concern everybody.”

### **California: DMV Failed to Submit 589 Voter Registrations Before Midterm Election, the Latest in String of Errors**

California’s secretary of state called for new leadership at the state’s embattled Department of Motor Vehicles after revelations of an error that could have prevented nearly 600 people from voting last month. DMV Director Jean Shiimoto told Secretary of State Alex Padilla in a letter that the agency mistakenly failed to transmit 589 voter records before the Nov. 6 election. A DMV spokesman said Shiimoto had already told staff she plans to retire by the end of the year. It’s the latest in a string of DMV errors related to rolling out the “motor voter” program that automatically registers eligible people who visit the department. In October, the DMV said about 1,500 people may have been incorrectly registered, perhaps including non-citizens. It also faced an audit over hours long wait times.

### **Florida: Florida Senate Won’t Consider Reinstating Former Broward Elections Supervisor Brenda Snipes**

The Florida Senate has declined to take action on former Broward County elections head Brenda Snipes’ suspension, paving the way for an ally of Republican Gov. Rick Scott to fill the remainder of her term, according to a memo on Thursday from Senate President Bill Galvano. Snipes had announced she would resign her post effective Jan. 4, amid an outcry over stumbles by her office during Florida’s recount. A day after Scott suspended her from office on Nov. 30, Snipes she said she would withdraw her resignation. Citing “misfeasance, incompetence and neglect of duty,” Scott installed Pete Antonacci, his former top lawyer, to fill the remainder of Snipes’ term, which ends after the 2020 presidential election.

### **Florida: 'We're Going to Follow the Law:' Q&A with New Broward Elections Chief**

There were allegations that Dr. Snipes was fixing elections for Democrats. Any impressions on that so far? I’ll speak to that indirectly. If the office of supervisors — as they are set up in our 67 counties — performs well, people will trust the outcome. The problem that has taken place in this office and other offices in Florida, a few other ones, is when performance lags, when the metrics are not met. For example, I’ll give you an example. When you’re not reporting every 30 minutes like you’re supposed to on election night, people get worried. And people get worried because of a concern about fraud. How will you handle voter purges, also called list maintenance? We’re going to follow the law. I don’t have all of the various options in front of me.... If you’re following the law, you’re enhancing public confidence. Every time you diverge from that — you miss your deadlines, your reports come in late, you don’t know how to upload stuff — you’re eroding public confidence. They go, ‘There they go again.’

### **Florida: Vote-by-Mail Scandal in North Carolina Exposes Florida’s Lax Laws**

In North Carolina, a Congressional race might get a rare election do-over after allegations surfaced that a political operative helped the Republican candidate win by illegally collecting absentee, or vote-by-mail, ballots. The case highlights a notable difference between two states, however: North Carolina has much tougher laws than Florida when it comes to voting by mail. Although Florida, like many states, has imposed strong voter ID laws for casting a ballot at a polling place, it’s done virtually nothing to stop fraud in the vote-by-mail process. Most everywhere in Florida, it’s not illegal to collect ballots, like it is in North

Carolina, where it's a felony. Rather, it's only illegal to pay someone to collect ballots in Florida, a loophole that allows campaign volunteers and even candidates themselves to go door to door collecting voters' ballots. (One exception is in Miami-Dade County, which has its own county code limiting anyone from possessing more than two ballots at a time.)

### **Illinois: Chicago Alderman Candidate Says Election Fraud Allegations Show 'Perversion of Democracy'**

An alderman candidate in Chicago said Tuesday that election fraud allegations in his ward are indicative of widespread problems in the city. "This is a huge perversion of democracy," David Krupa, a 19-year-old freshman at DePaul University, told Hill.TV's Buck Sexton on "Rising." "Michael Madigan, our state speaker, has been doing this for a long time in my ward, and we think it's really unfair, and not just unfair, but undemocratic," said Krupa, who is running in the city's 13th ward. Krupa alleges that allies of his opponent, Alderman Marty Quinn, are engaging in election fraud to get him off the ballot. Krupa has collected 1,703 signatures, surpassing the 473 needed to run for alderman. He claims that before he turned in the signatures, Quinn's supporters submitted affidavits from 2,796 people saying they want to take back their signatures supporting Krupa. Quinn addressed the allegations on "Chicago Tonight," suggesting that Krupa was being disingenuous. "I guess the better question is: a self-described, 'day-one Trump supporter' gets 1,700 signatures in the 13th Ward, without being disingenuous? That's the question that comes to my mind," Quinn said. Krupa told Sexton that he is willing to take the case to the federal level.

### **Iowa: Secretary of State on Winneshiek County Ballot Fight**

Secretary of State Paul Pate is weighing in on a controversial northeast Iowa election. Democrat Kayla Koether is trying to get 33 absentee ballots counted in Winneshiek County. She currently trails incumbent Republican Michael Bergan by nine votes in Iowa House District 55 and the ballots in question arrived after election day and do not have a postmark on them. Pate has now issued the following statement on this matter: *"As Secretary of State, I swear an oath to uphold the Constitution and Laws of the State of Iowa, and I support every eligible vote being counted. Trying to change the rules after an election is not the way elections work in Iowa. In addition, this office and the Winneshiek County Auditor have complied with the district court order in all respects. I will do everything under the law to ensure every voter is provided the same rights. I am disappointed by the political rhetoric. My job is to be the referee of elections and not side with one candidate or party. Ms. Koether has already requested and received recounts in two counties in House District 55, and she has the right under the law to file an election contest."*

### **Kentucky: Owensboro Democrat Says Election Challenge Must Be Dismissed**

A Kentucky Democrat elected to the state House of Representatives by one vote says a Republican's challenge of the election results should be dismissed. Jim Glenn defeated Republican state Rep. DJ Johnson by one vote in state House District 13. Johnson is challenging the results, asking the Republican-controlled House of Representatives for a recount. He says six voters are ineligible because they did not sign the precinct voter roster. He argues local officials incorrectly rejected 17 absentee ballots. Glenn's attorneys filed documents saying the 17 absentee ballots were correctly rejected by a bipartisan election board. They argue it's impossible to invalidate three of the other six voters because their identities are unknown. The other three were known to poll workers, they said, so there is no risk of fraud.

### **Mississippi: Seven Arrested and Charged with Voting Fraud in Mississippi Town Known for Election Skulduggery**

In a town that calls itself the Hollywood of Mississippi, people say for years they've been hearing tales of dirty politics worthy of a movie script, like campaigns buying votes with cash or beer. But it wasn't until the last few days when the former police chief, a former fire chief and others were arrested on voter fraud charges that locals realized the extent of the problems. "It's always been kind of fishy business dealing with elections in Canton, Miss.," said 21-year-old resident Laselven Harris, an African American who worked in the 2017 city campaign for a white Republican who lost the race for mayor. Six people were arrested Thursday and one was arrested Friday after a grand jury indicted them on a variety of election fraud charges. They face accusations of bribing voters, improperly helping people fill out absentee ballots, voting despite being convicted of disqualifying felonies and voting even though they lived outside the city or voting district.

Gov. Roy Cooper vetoed a bill that would require voters to show a form of photo identification before voting in person, calling it “a solution in search of a problem.” The bill passed this month largely along party lines. A handful of Democrats voted for it, and the bill passed with veto-proof margins in both the state House and Senate. House Speaker Tim Moore and Senate leader Phil Berger said in separate statements that the legislature will override Cooper’s veto. “We are disappointed that Gov. Cooper chose to ignore the will of the people and reject a commonsense election integrity measure that is common in most states, but the North Carolina House will override his veto as soon as possible,” Moore’s statement said.

### **North Carolina: Voter Fraud Probe Could Prompt New Primary, General Elections**

With fraud allegations still plaguing an uncertified North Carolina congressional election, voters could head back to the polls for a brand-new election – primary and all. North Carolina’s state legislature voted Wednesday to require both new primary and general elections should the state elections board decide to call for a redo. Accusations of voter fraud and ballot irregularities have bedeviled the 9th Congressional District election. Republican Mark Harris led Democrat Dan McCready by about 900 votes out of nearly 283,000 cast in the district, which the GOP has held since 1963. But issues with absentee ballots have prevented Harris from being certified the winner as the state elections board continues to investigate allegations of “irregularities and concerted fraudulent activities.”

### **REDISTRICTING**

#### **New Jersey: New Jersey Democrats Want to Make Republicans a Permanent Minority — and Are Getting Accused of Gerrymandering for It**

Democrats have control over New Jersey's State Senate, House and governorship. They are looking into making this power permanent under a proposal that would ensure Republicans are the minority in the Garden State. The New York Times reported that Stephen M. Sweeney, the New Jersey State Senate president, and fellow state legislator Nicholas P. Scutari, have proposed a bill that would allow voters to decide how redistricting should be done. The Democrats' proposal would amend the state's constitution by overhauling a redistricting committee and giving more power to legislative leaders, according to The Times. The plan has been criticized as gerrymandering by both Republicans and Democrats. Eric Holder, former U.S. attorney general under President Barack Obama and head of the National Democratic Redistricting Committee, told The Times that “the American people want redistricting reforms that help level the playing field so that elections are decided on who has the best ideas, not which party was in charge of drawing the lines.”

#### **Virginia: Virginia House of Delegates Asks Justices to Intervene in Redistricting Dispute**

Last month the Supreme Court announced that it would, for the second time, review a case from Virginia challenging the legislative districts drawn in 2011 for the state’s House of Delegates as the product of unconstitutional racial gerrymandering – the idea that legislators relied too much on race when drawing the maps. Today Virginia legislators were back at the court, asking the justices to block proceedings in the lower court aimed at coming up with new maps for the 2019 election until the Supreme Court can rule on the dispute. The Virginia case is one with which the justices are already very familiar. Last year, the court ruled that a lower court had applied the wrong legal standard when it rejected claims that 12 districts were the product of racial gerrymandering. The Supreme Court upheld one district, but it ordered the lower court to take a fresh look at the other 11 – and, in particular, at whether race was the primary factor used to draw those districts.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 08, 2019 10:40 AM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: Supreme Court will take on the issue of partisan gerrymandering; EAC now operational; in CA new ballot harvesting law was used to flip congressional seats, while noncitizens voted. FL bill to weed out noncitizens proposed.

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The [Supreme Court will take on the issue of partisan gerrymandering](#) in the new session and the [Election Assistance Commission is now operational](#). The L.A. Times confesses how California's new ballot harvesting law was used by [young illegals to flip Orange County congressional seats](#), while a confusing DMV questionnaire may have permitted noncitizens to vote. Meanwhile, Florida is eyeing [return to electing its Secretary of State](#), considering a new bill to [weed out noncitizens from the voter rolls](#) and [crosschecking voter registrations with other states](#). [Maryland](#) and [New Jersey](#) now have automatic voter registration in place, and [Nebraska's new Secretary of State](#) is looking at measures to improve his state's election integrity. Speaking of elections, [Georgia's Stacy Abrams](#) finally admitted defeat! Read this [week's EIB](#).

## LEAD

### WSJ: Supreme Court Again to Consider Partisan Gerrymandering

The Supreme Court will try again to tackle the thorny issue of political gerrymandering, announcing Friday that it will hear cases from North Carolina and Maryland to decide whether there are constitutional limits to how far lawmakers can go in drawing electoral districts to maximize their partisan advantage. The court, in a brief written order, said it would review two lower-court rulings: one that struck down a North Carolina congressional map drawn by Republicans that has been highly favorable to the GOP, and another that invalidated a Maryland congressional district drawn by Democrats to eliminate a Republican-held seat.

## FEDERAL

### The Hill: Senate Confirms Commissioners to Election Agency, Giving it Full Powers

The Senate late Wednesday confirmed by voice vote a pair of commissioners to the Election Assistance Commission (EAC), giving the agency a quorum for the first time since last March. Benjamin Hovland and Donald Palmer were among several nominees passed in the final hours of the Senate session. If they had not been confirmed before noon Thursday, when the 115th Congress adjourns, both nominees would have to go through the confirmation process again. Having a quorum means the EAC can now carry out major policy moves.

## STATES

### California: L.A. Times Admits Illegals/Foreigners Influenced Election — to Help Democrats

It's the real foreign influence on our elections — and now even the liberal *Los Angeles Times* has tacitly admitted its significance. It's all included in a New Year's Day piece *American Thinker's* Monica Showalter writes, "accidentally did more to raise questions about the issue of ballot-harvesting in California than any raving right-wing warning tome could ever do. The Times describes how California's famed ballot-harvesters, who flipped places such as Orange County blue in the last midterm, aren't actually citizens."

### California: Did Non-Citizens Vote Last Year? California Officials Still Cannot Say

California officials still can't say whether non-citizens voted in the June 2018 primary because a confusing government questionnaire about eligibility was created in a way that prevents a direct answer on citizenship. The snag comes from a voter eligibility questionnaire that lumps five separate characteristics. "We can't assume why they declined to answer eligibility questions or why they said they were not eligible," the Secretary of State's Office wrote in an internal memo on Oct. 8, 2018.

### Florida: Florida Officials Make Proposal for Changes to Secretary of State Position

A proposal to make Florida's secretary of state an elected position has again emerged in the Senate.

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This is the fourth consecutive year the proposal has been introduced. Florida had an elected secretary of state until 2003. That's when the position became appointed under a constitutional amendment that shrank the Cabinet from six to three members. The secretary of state is now appointed by the governor. Proponents of an elected secretary of state, including Senate bill sponsor Aaron Bean, argue the move would avoid "awkward" situations or even conflicts of interest in election disputes. "Now, more than ever, it is topical to have an independent person, who is directly responsible to and accountable to the voters for our election system. That person should be an independently elected secretary of state," said State Senator Aaron Bean.

#### **Florida: Bill Would Identify Noncitizen Voters**

Florida elections officials would be tasked with trying to identify noncitizens on the voter rolls under legislation filed this week by state Sen. Joe Gruters. Gruters, R-Sarasota, wants the supervisor of elections in each Florida county to enter into an agreement with local court officials to get a list of jurors who identified themselves as noncitizens and compare that list against the voter rolls. Gruters' bill (SB 230) also would require the Department of Motor Vehicles to provide a monthly list of "persons who identify themselves as aliens" to the Department of State, which would crosscheck the list against the statewide voter registration database and flag potential noncitizens on the voter roll for local elections supervisors. "We don't want to have any illegals voting," said Gruters.

#### **Florida: New Law Allows Florida Election Officials To Cross Check Voter Rolls With Other States**

Florida is joining a multi-state compact, giving local elections supervisors access to voter logs in other states. It's through a new law that went into effect New Years The new law allows the Department of State to join E.R.I.C (ERIC), the Election Registration Information Center. "The Electronic Registration Information Center is a clearinghouse that allows Florida's supervisors to send information to ensure that individuals who are registered in the state of Florida are not dually registered in other jurisdictions," Former Leon County Supervisor of Elections Ion Sancho said.

#### **Georgia: Stacey Abrams and the Lie of Voter Suppression**

Democrat Stacey Abrams finally admitted defeat to Republican Brian Kemp in the Georgia governor's race. Yet rather than gracefully stepping down, Abrams said, "As a woman of conscience and faith, I cannot concede. But my assessment is that the law currently allows no further viable remedy." Here, she relies on false claims of voter suppression by citing a bevy of issues including: voting precinct closures, the Georgia Exact Match Law, voter roll purges and long lines on Election Day. Such extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence. Unfortunately, the evidence is quite unremarkable. It is apparent that Brian Kemp simply enforced Georgia laws with respect to the election.

#### **Maryland: Election Day Voter Registration Goes Into Effect In Maryland**

This past November, 67 percent of Maryland voters approved a ballot measure that would allow Election Day registration. With the ballot measure taking effect on Jan. 1, it's now up to state legislators to craft instructions for election officials to implement the new law. Same-day registration during early voting periods — which run for eight days prior to primary and general elections — have been an option for Maryland voters since 2013. Currently, the State Board of Elections uses provisional ballots in early voting. Provisional ballots are also used on Election Day if there is a problem with voter information at the polls.

#### **Nebraska: Nebraska Secretary of State Elect Evnan Looking at Voter ID Laws**

Incoming Nebraska Secretary of State Bob Evnan will move ahead with a plan to require voter ID. He doesn't want to wait until elections here are in trouble. Evnan says, "If you wait until your election process becomes corrupt it is too late to do anything about them. The time to address this is ahead of the curve." Evnan wants to put together a Voter ID Law for Nebraska that fits Nebraska and will protect our elections but does not disenfranchise properly registered voters. He is leaning toward a voter ID card but will spend the rest of the year carefully looking at what works in other states before making any proposals here.

#### **New Jersey: Automatic Voter Registration at MVC Counts on Honesty from Noncitizens**

The state depends on the public's honesty when it automatically registers to vote anyone applying for a driver's license or non-driver identification card through the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission. "Prospective New Jersey voters must verify that they are U.S. citizens and eligible to vote prior to NJ MVC



transmitting their voter registration to the Division of Elections,” said Department of State spokeswoman Trudi Gilfillian in an emailed response to questions. “Any false or fraudulent information may subject those convicted to a fine of up to \$15,000 or imprisonment up to five years, or both,” she said. “Individuals must acknowledge on the signature pad that they have received this warning.”

### **Oklahoma: Sallisaw Woman Facing Voter Fraud Charges**

A Sallisaw woman was arrested recently for voting illegally twice in Sequoyah County. Tera Beth Long, 36, of Sallisaw, faces one count of false affidavit in voting registration and one count of voting illegally. Both are considered felonies and punishable by a total imprisonment of up to 10 years and fines of up to \$100,000 if convicted for both counts, according to a probable cause affidavit filed Dec. 12 by Sequoyah County District Attorney Jack Thorp. According to the document, Long is alleged to have voted illegally during the 2016 and 2018 elections.

### **Tennessee: Taxpayer Dollars Used by Memphis City leaders to Promote Political Cause**

The Memphis city council approved using \$40,000 to educate voters about three referendums on the November 2018 ballot. On Wednesday, FOX13 received public records that show the city almost spent the full \$40,000. FOX13 obtained an itemized statement which shows Memphis city council hired the Carter-Malone Group, LLC as a consultant for its 2018 referendum campaign. This statement shows the firm spent nearly \$18,000 alone for grassroots marketing and poll workers during early voting. “They were straight forward one-sided advocacy, they did not seek to inform the voters in any detail of what the referendums meant or why they might be good or bad. They just said vote yes for repeal,” said Steven Mulroy of Save IRV. Mulroy believes this was dishonest and misled voters.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **SCOTUS Blog: Supreme Court to Tackle Partisan Gerrymandering Again**

Less than six months after sidestepping a ruling on partisan gerrymandering, the justices announced this afternoon that they will once again wade into the thorny issue of when (if ever) state officials violate the Constitution by drawing district lines to favor one political party at another’s expense, this time in cases from North Carolina and Maryland. With the retirement last summer of Justice Anthony Kennedy and his replacement by Justice Brett Kavanaugh, the more conservative court could be poised to rule that courts should steer clear of such claims. The issue of partisan gerrymandering has vexed the justices for some time.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 26, 2019 9:56 AM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: Vast majority of citizens want Americans counted in the 2020 Census; new Attorney General encouraged to investigate social media's power to manipulate elections; newest Supreme Court justice redistricting deciding vote

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A vast majority of citizens want Americans [counted in the 2020 Census](#). Meanwhile, the new [Attorney General is being encouraged](#) to investigate social media's power to manipulate elections; and the [newest justice on the Supreme Court](#) is expected to be the deciding vote on the federal government's role in redistricting.

Arizona is questioning whether [ballot harvesting](#) amounts to next-day voting; and Florida is wrestling with [ballots mailed early that arrived too late](#). Meanwhile, a three-judge panel of the 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals says requiring that [mail-in ballot signatures match those on file](#) poses "a serious burden on the right to vote."

Colorado has [tossed out the electoral college without transparency](#); a North Carolina judge has [struck down the state's voter ID amendment](#) approved by the voters, while the new State Election Board has [ordered an election re-do](#) for the 9<sup>th</sup> District. Georgia wants to [remove names of voters](#) who have moved out of state or died; Kansas has rejected same-day registration; and [Texas is investigating illegal voting](#). But [Oregon wants children to vote](#); Pennsylvania is trying to figure out just how many noncitizens are voting there; and [Virginia favors Election Week over Election Day](#). Read [this week's EIB](#).

## LEAD

### New AG Urged to Launch Investigation of Facebook

Warning that social-media companies like Facebook, Twitter and Google/YouTube, which already are wired to be leftist, have "an unprecedented power to manipulate and sway elections," a coalition of conservative organizations is asking new Attorney General William Barr to order them investigated. "Such sweeping power, combined with near monopolistic dominance in the marketplace, and in conjunction with deep one-sided liberal partisan bias within all the organizations, is cause for alarm," a letter the coalition sent to Barr explains. "These organizations present a threat not merely to conservatives in the United States, but indeed our free market economic system and the very viability of the U.S. political system," the letter said. "Respecting these entities' own constitutional rights, we believe there nevertheless is ample probable cause of antitrust violations and of conspiracy to violate the constitutional rights of conservatives, and possible collusion to violate laws governing America's campaign finance system and elections." The signatures joining Bozell's included **Susan Carleson of the American Civil Rights Union...**

## FEDERAL

### Brett Kavanaugh Could Decide How Redistricting Is Done

Voters keep voicing their frustration with the politically fraught way that state lawmakers redraw congressional districts every 10 years and have approved ways to outsource the work with hopes of making fairer maps. Colorado and Michigan approved ballot measures in November to create independent redistricting commissions to prevent one party from carving up a state in such a way as to entrench itself in office. But the ultimate success of those commissions, as well as lawsuits to combat partisan gerrymandering, could hinge almost entirely on the views of one person — newly confirmed Supreme Court Justice Brett M. Kavanaugh. He is expected to have the pivotal vote in the cases that could curtail how states use politics to draw legislative and congressional districts — or leave them free to be even more partisan in the future. And a future legal challenge to one of those newly created independent commissions could give conservatives on the Supreme Court a chance to reverse an earlier ruling and strike them down as unconstitutional, legal experts say.

**Ballotpedia: 78% of Voters Believe It's Appropriate for the U.S. Census Bureau to Ask Residents if They are Citizens of the United States**

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Seventy-eight percent (78%) of voters nationwide believe it's appropriate for the U.S. Census Bureau to ask residents if they are citizens of the United States. A ScottRasmussen.com national survey found that 14% disagree and 8% are not sure. That view is held by a solid majority of every measured demographic group. Ninety-two percent (92%) of Republicans believe the question is appropriate. So do 79% of independent voters and 67% of Democrats. However, several states and cities are suing the federal government to prevent a question about citizenship from being asked on the 2020 census. Last week, the U.S. Supreme Court agreed to hear the case and issue a ruling.

## STATES

### Arizona: Illegal Ballot Harvesting a Looming Issue in Arizona

Republican candidate Martha McSally beat Democrat Kyrsten Sinema in last year's election to fill a vacant U.S. Senate seat. At least McSally won on election night. We all know what happened: Over the next week hundreds of thousands of early, absentee, and provisional ballots were reviewed, contested, and counted - and at the end of it all Arizonans found out that Sinema had won. The same thing happened in several down-ballot races. Of particular concern was the race for secretary of state in which Republican Steve Gaynor, who had promised to focus on election integrity, was ahead by 40,000 votes on election night only to lose by 20,252 votes when the final count was certified. The pervasiveness of this phenomena raised alarms among Republicans, who wound up on the losing end of all the races that swung from one party to the other between election night and the final certified count that came a week or more later. How could this happen? Was it legitimate or is there a real reason for concern over the integrity of the election? Contributing to the suspicion is not only the lead changes, but the substantial amount of time between Election Day and the certification of the vote. Most people understand intuitively that the more time that elapses the more opportunity there is for cheating.

### Colorado: Colorado OKs joining National Popular Vote

Under a bill passed Thursday by the Colorado House, Colorado has agreed to join 12 other states in a compact system that aims to cast all its electoral votes for the winner of the national popular presidential vote. The compact kicks in as soon as it is adopted by states possessing a combined 270 electoral votes, or a majority of the 538 electoral votes. The bill passed the Democrat-controlled House and now goes to Gov. Jared Polis, a Democrat, who has pledged to sign it. Colorado's nine electoral votes will join 10 other states, one commonwealth and one district for a total of 181 electoral votes, 89 votes short of becoming binding. The National Popular Vote project, which began in 2006, in effect renders the Electoral College moot, eliminating any chance that a candidate can win the presidency without winning the popular vote nationally.

### Colorado: Secretary of State Pushes Transparency, Withholds Emails on NPV

Jena Griswold, the newly elected secretary of state in Colorado, advocates transparency for state lawmakers, yet recently declined to disclose internal communications from her office about the "National Popular Vote" effort that would be a constitutional workaround to the Electoral College. Shortly after Griswold, a Democrat, testified to the Colorado General Assembly in favor of legislation aimed at having the state join the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact, the *Washington Free Beacon* requested communications from her office that referenced the compact spanning a two-week period. Some communications were turned over as a matter of law under the Colorado Open Records Act. However, the secretary's office also noted that some documents were withheld because of the "work product" privilege, an exclusion prescribed in the law. When the *Beacon* requested that the privilege be waived, and the documents turned over, a legal analyst replied, "I'm sorry, but the Secretary does not release work product prepared for her."

### Florida: Florida Votes, Rejected for Arriving Too Late, Were Mailed Days or Weeks Before Election

After last year's election, a judge called Florida the laughing stock of the world. As FOX 13 took a closer look at voting records, we found even more problems. Matthew Thomas mailed corrections to his ballot at a post office in Hillsborough County, near his work, to the election's office in Pinellas, near his home. He said he dropped it off a week before the election. However, we checked the stamp on his envelope and found it arrived a week after the election. It is just one of at least 6,882 votes across Florida that the state says were postmarked before Election Day, which did not count because they arrived too late. Meanwhile across Florida, thousands of legally registered voters turned in their ballots before the election, and they still didn't count because their signatures did not match the ones on file with the election's offices.



## **Florida: Court Rules Florida 'Disenfranchised' Voters by Rejecting Mail-in Ballots for Signature Mismatches**

Upholding a judge's decision that sided with former U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson and national Democrats, the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Friday ruled that a Florida law requiring voters' signatures on mail-in ballots to match the signatures on file with elections officials imposes "a serious burden on the right to vote." Friday's 2-1 opinion came more than three months after the November election. Under state law, voters whose mail-in ballots are received by 5 p.m. the day before the election have an opportunity to "cure" rejected ballots by providing documentation to elections supervisors to show that they are who they claim to be. County canvassing boards make decisions about whether signatures match, and thus whether ballots should be counted. But counties don't have uniform regulations to govern the decisions, Democrats argued. In Friday's split ruling, Judge Gerald Tjoflat dissented. The Democrats had asked the federal court to force county supervisors to count all mail-in and provisional ballots that had been rejected due to signature mismatch, Tjoflat noted. And, Tjoflat argued, a voter who waited "until the eleventh hour to submit his ballot ran the risk that his ballot might be rejected."

## **Georgia: Georgia Could Join Effort to Cancel More Out-of-State Voter Registrations**

Georgia might begin participating in a 25-state effort to cancel voter registrations of voters who move away or die. The state could enroll in the Electronic Registration Information Center, according to House Bill 316, a broad elections bill introduced last week that also calls for Georgia to replace its electronic voting machines. States that participate in ERIC, a state-funded nonprofit organization founded with assistance from The Pew Charitable Trusts, share voters' information to identify those who no longer live in states where they're still registered to vote. Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger said ERIC would help election officials ensure that only eligible voters are registered. About 13 percent to 15 percent of Georgians move every year, he said. "That would be one of the best ways for us to keep our lists fresh clean and accurate," Raffensperger said. "It's a very robust software that connects us with other states. ... You'll actually find out who's moving, and it connects with death records."

## **Kansas: House Panel Rejects Same-Day Voter Registration Bill**

A Republican-controlled legislative committee has rejected a Democratic proposal to allow Kansas residents to register to vote on the same day they cast their ballots. The House Elections Committee's vote Thursday was 7-5 against the measure. The state's current registration deadline is three weeks before an election. Republicans argued Thursday that the change would increase costs for county election offices. They've worried in the past about potential voter fraud.

## **New Mexico: House Approves Automatic Voter Registration**

The New Mexico House of Representatives has voted in favor of automatic voter registration legislation. Lawmakers late Tuesday night approved a bill that would change that state's voter registration to be "opt-out" at motor vehicle offices, according to Las Cruces Sun News. Currently, drivers in New Mexico can choose to be registered to vote when they get their driver's license or ID at a Motor Vehicle Division office through an "opt-in" system, the newspaper noted. If the new legislation passes the state Senate, the registration process would be changed to automatically register people unless they choose to opt out, it added. The measure, which was passed in a 44-22 vote in the House, reportedly faced opposition from Republican lawmakers who said that it could result in ineligible people becoming registered to vote illegally.

## **North Carolina: Board Orders New Election in Fraud-Shrouded House Race**

Months of conflict and confusion over a fraud-tainted House race in North Carolina ended Thursday with the State Board of Elections ordering a new election. The five-member board's unanimous vote for a redo capped a months' long investigation and four days of dramatic testimony before the board about an absentee ballot scheme linked to the campaign of Republican Mark Harris. The Nov. 6 results that showed Mr. Harris leading Democrat Dan McCready by 905 votes have been in limbo because of fraud allegations, leaving the 9th Congressional District seat empty in the new Congress. The board was tasked with reviewing the evidence and deciding whether to certify the Nov. 6 results or order a new election in the district, which spans the area between Charlotte and Fayetteville.

## **North Carolina: Judge Strikes Down Voter ID Amendment**

A controversial voter ID amendment in North Carolina is no more. The measure was one of two constitutional amendments passed in the last election that a superior court judge in North Carolina threw out on Friday. Wake County Judge Bryan Collins ruled that a new voter ID amendment and a cap on state income tax, both passed by North Carolina residents in the 2018 midterm elections, violated the state constitution. North Carolina Republican Party Chairman Robin Hayes says that the Collins ruling is a constitutional overreach. "These amendments were placed on the ballot and passed by an overwhelming majority of North Carolinians," Hayes said, per the News and Observer. "This unprecedented and absurd ruling by a liberal judge is the very definition of judicial activism."

### **Oregon: Oregon Lawmakers Seek to Lower Voting Age in State to 16**

Children are our future -- and a group of Oregon lawmakers wants the future to be now. They're pushing a bill that would amend Oregon's constitution to lower the voting age in the state from 18 to 16. They hope to put it before voters in 2020. Pressing issues affecting young people have lowered the voting age in the past. It used to be 21 before the 26th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, ratified in 1971, lowered it to 18.

### **Pennsylvania: Local Lawmaker Claims Thousands of Non-U.S. Citizens Are Voting in Pennsylvania**

State Rep. Brad Roae (R-Crawford-Erie) said he wants the state to be more cooperative in determining how many foreign nationals are registered to vote in Pennsylvania. Roae made his comments during a panel discussion involving other state lawmakers who represent Erie County. The panel was asked what steps should be taken to increase the accuracy of voter registration. Roae said thousands of non-U.S. citizens are registered to vote in Pennsylvania due to a glitch by PennDOT. People who are applying for, or renewing, their driver's license, are asked if they are a U.S. citizen. They also are asked if they want to register to vote. Between 1995 and 2017, people who revealed they are not a U.S. citizen were still able to sign up to vote as part of PennDOT's Motor Voter program. Controversy still stirs as to how many foreign nationals are registered in Pennsylvania. The state claims 11,198 people. The Pennsylvania Department of State is working with county election officials to track down those voters.

### **Texas: State Official Defends Voter Probe, Says Possible Illegal Activity Found**

A state elections official defended the investigation in federal court Wednesday, saying some potential illegal activity has been uncovered and blaming several county officials for problems that have arisen. Keith Ingram, head of the Elections Division at the Texas secretary of state's office, said 43 people on the list of suspect voters contacted his agency and asked to have their voter registration canceled because they were not U.S. citizens. "I believe some have voted," he told U.S. District Judge Fred Biery during a hearing into efforts by civil rights groups and an affected voter to halt the investigation as an error-riddled effort that improperly singles out naturalized citizens. An additional 37 people asked to be removed from the state list of registered voters but gave no reason for the request.

### **Virginia: Virginia General Assembly OKs Limited 'No-Excuse' Absentee Voting for 2020**

Beginning in fall 2020, Virginia will have more than Election Day. It will be more like Election Week. Voters will go to the polls on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, to cast ballots for president and other political offices. But for the first time, Virginians will be able to vote early that year — from October 24 through October 31 — without needing to provide an excuse. That is the effect of legislation passed Thursday by the General Assembly and sent to Gov. Ralph Northam, who has expressed support for the measure.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Fox News: Obama and Former AG Holder Announce New Campaign to Combat Gerrymandering**

Former President Barack Obama's nonprofit political organization is teaming up with his former Attorney General to launch a campaign against gerrymandering. The "All On The Line" campaign - which will also work to protect the Affordable Care Act, reduce gun violence, and expand voting rights - is part of a push in recent years by high-profile Democrats to curtail the use of gerrymandering across the country.

The American Civil Rights Union

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 11, 2018 11:44 AM EST  
**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>  
**Subject:** EIB: Yes, Voter Fraud is Real, Not Just North Carolina, Look to MS, NY and TX

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[Yes, voter fraud is real](#) ... discovered in the [North Carolina 9<sup>th</sup> Congressional District](#). But also found in a few other places, including [Mississippi](#), [New York](#), and [Texas](#), where recent voter fraud cases are being prosecuted. Read all about these stories [in this week's EIB](#).

## LEAD

### National Review: Yes, Voter Fraud Is Real

Democrats, who the day before yesterday were insisting that voter fraud didn't exist, now believe that it was used to steal a North Carolina congressional seat from them — and they may well be right. Republican Mark Harris has a 905-vote lead over Democrat Dan McCready in the state's 9th Congressional District, a slender victory that the State Board of Elections has refused to certify given credible allegations of cheating. The election board can order a new election if improprieties occurred that "taint the result" and "cast doubt on its fairness." Absentee voting is a particular soft spot. It occurs outside the watch of election officials, and it's impossible to determine what happens to the ballot in between the time it leaves and returns.

## FEDERAL

### Daily Signal: Election Fraud Doesn't Exist Until Liberals Want It to Exist

Something amazing is happening: Liberals have suddenly begun to believe in voter fraud. Almost overnight, years of constant denial and disbelief have melted away amid allegations that a congressional election in North Carolina may have been tainted by absentee ballot fraud. According to the left, voter fraud does not exist and any effort to address it is really about voter suppression and racially-motivated disenfranchisement. It is ironic that North Carolina is one of the states where the left has vehemently opposed voter ID, which is just one of many reforms that are needed to secure elections. That makes liberals' overnight conversion all the more shocking.

### Breitbart: Democrats Call Ballot Harvesting 'Fraud' in North Carolina, 'Democracy' in California

Democrats are crying foul over alleged voter fraud in North Carolina's 9th congressional district, where Republican operative Leslie McCrae Dowless is accused of using "ballot harvesting" to help Mark Harris defeat Democrat Dan McCready. Dowless and his staff gathered absentee ballots from voters and offered to mail them in on the voters' behalf. Only near relatives are allowed to do that under North Carolina law. But in California, third parties may submit an unlimited number of mail-in ballots, thanks to a new law signed by Gov. Jerry Brown in 2016. The practice of "ballot harvesting" is now thought to have had a major impact on the 2018 midterm elections in California, where several incumbent Republicans in competitive districts had healthy leads on Election Night, only to discover — weeks later, in some cases — they had lost, thanks to mail-in ballots.

### NPR: Voting by Mail Is on the Rise, but Could Alleged N.C. Election Fraud Change That?

"The consensus, among people who study fraud carefully, is that voting by mail is a much more fertile area for fraud than voting in person," said Charles Stewart, who studies election technology and administration at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Still, voting by mail is on the rise. The numbers aren't finalized for 2018 yet, but in the 2016 presidential election, the percentage of people who voted by mail had more than doubled compared to two decades prior.

## STATES

**Florida: Broward Recount Hampered by Too Few Workers, Judges Say**

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The Broward elections office didn't have enough workers to recount votes in the November election, according to a self-evaluation sent to the state. The report has two parts, one signed by two judges and now-suspended Supervisor of Elections Brenda Snipes and the other signed only by judges. The version with Snipes' signature says staffing shortages did not contribute to vote-counting delays. But the judges' version says the office didn't have enough staff to run a 24-hour operation, which they say was necessary to meet the counting deadlines.

### **Georgia: A Brewing January Fight Could Pit Ballot Access Against Voter Security**

In his victory declaration, Secretary of State-elect Brad Raffensperger vowed to defend the broad voter registration purges and strict requirements for absentee balloting, which were implemented by his Republican predecessor and fueled Democratic accusations of disenfranchisement in fall campaigns. Raffensperger's decision to continue the policies of Brian Kemp, now the governor-elect, virtually guarantees a January fight among state lawmakers that will pit voting security, as demanded by Republicans, against ballot access, now a front-and-center cause among Democrats.

### **Maine: Maine GOP Calls for Investigation of Election Irregularities in 2nd District**

The Maine Republican Party called on Maine Secretary of State Matt Dunlap to launch an investigation into election irregularities it has uncovered in the controversial 2nd congressional district election held on November 6. The party released evidence of those irregularities on Thursday: 17 sworn affidavits from voters who are residents of four towns in southern Maine that are part of the 1st Congressional District, who say that on election day, they were given ballots for the November 6 election in the 2nd Congressional District between Democrat Jared Golden and Rep. Bruce Poliquin (R-ME-02).

### **Mississippi: Court Records Say Former Canton Fire Chief Promised Beer for a Vote**

Madison County Assistant District Attorney Bryan Buckley confirmed Cary Johnson was arrested as the seventh person accused of voter fraud stemming from the 2018 Canton municipal elections. Court records say the former Canton fire chief promised beer for a vote. The former Canton fire chief is the latest official to be arrested in a voter fraud sweep in Madison County. Johnson was indicted on three counts of voter fraud for allegedly buying votes in exchange for money and beer. Canton Alderwoman and former Police Chief Vickie McNeil and five others were indicted on charges of voter fraud.

### **New York: Suffolk Board of Elections Workers, Party Leaders, Face Forgery Charges**

Two employees of the Suffolk County Board of Elections, as well as an East Hampton Independence Party leader, were charged with forging signatures on nominating petitions, in some cases with the names of dead people, District Attorney Timothy Sini said. The former chairman of the East Hampton Town Republican Party is expected to face similar charges in court. Board of Elections employee William Mann, 60, of Cutchogue, faces charges of second-degree criminal possession of a forged instrument, first-degree offering a false instrument for filing and two counts of official misconduct. Another employee, Gregory Dickerson, 55, of Mattituck, was charged with two counts of second-degree criminal possession of a forged instrument and two counts of first-degree offering a false instrument for filing.

### **North Carolina: NC GOP Candidate: 'I Would Wholeheartedly Support' New Election if Fraud Is Found**

Republican Mark Harris announced that he would support a new election for North Carolina's 9th congressional district if it is determined that election fraud swung the race in his favor. Harris announced in a web video that he would back a potential new race amid rising evidence of fraud in the contest, in which he leads Democratic rival Dan McCready by 905 votes. Questions surround an independent contractor that worked on Harris' campaign as the state's board of elections investigates absentee ballot irregularities.

### **Texas: Texas Officials Request Two New Voter Fraud Investigations**

In a year fraught with numerous allegations and, in some cases, prosecutions over irregularities at the Texas ballot box, two new voter fraud investigations appear to loom in the Lone Star State. Director of Elections Keith Ingram for the Texas Secretary of State requested the Office of Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton investigate a complaint that accused a South Texas councilman of committing voter fraud during the November 2018 midterm election in a school board race. The complainant alleges that on October 24, 2018, Hidalgo City Councilman Rodolfo "Rudy" Franz unlawfully assisted a voter by

suggesting and instructing the voter on who to vote for while assisting them with their ballot. The complainant further alleges that Mr. Franz was asked multiple times by election workers to stop making suggestions and instructions to the voter, but that he continued to offer unlawful assistance despite their requests.

## REDISTRICTING

### Politico: Democrats Fighting Their Own Base on Redistricting

It's only been a month since the election, when enthusiasm from the liberal wing of the Democratic Party helped flip four of New Jersey's five GOP-held house seats. But now many of the activists who were instrumental in flipping those House seats are fighting with their own party's state legislators over the redistricting amendment. The liberals who call for redistricting reform have a lot of problems with the amendment. The New Jersey Working Families Alliance, which helped make the case for a similar amendment a few years ago but dropped its support, is helping organize the resistance.

### Virginia: Expert Reveals Proposal to Redraw VA House Map after Court Rejects GOP Attempt to Block It

An expert appointed to redraw the Virginia House of Delegates map released his proposal Friday after a federal court rejected a Republican effort to stop it. Bernard Grofman, a political science professor at the University of California-Irvine, filed his 131-page report outlining his suggestions for how Virginia could fix 11 House districts found to be racially gerrymandered. A panel of three federal judges denied both motions, clearing the way for the release of Grofman's proposal.

### Lawmaker Aims to Get Citizenship Question Removed from U.S. Census

The likely incoming Democratic chairman of the congressional panel overseeing the U.S. census said on Tuesday he aims to pressure the Trump administration into removing a question about citizenship from the 2020 census questionnaire. Representative Gerald Connolly said that when Democrats assume leadership of the House of Representatives in January, they plan to call Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross to testify about the citizenship question, which has spurred criticism and lawsuits.

### Courthouse News: Citizenship Census Question Spat Likely Headed for Trial in California

Citing facts still in dispute about the decision to add a citizenship question to the 2020 U.S. Census, a federal judge suggested Friday that another trial over the controversial Trump administration policy will likely start early next year.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 27, 2018 9:16 AM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: After the 2018 Mid-Terms, "Election Poison" Spreads Across the Political Spectrum

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After the 2018 mid-term election, [‘Stolen Election’ Poison](#) spreads across the political spectrum. Is this undermining of [faith in Democracy](#) a new low point? Read [the EIB](#) for more.

## LEAD

### National Review: The ‘Stolen Election’ Poison Spreads Across Our Political Spectrum

There is a massive double standard in the national conversation when it comes to election results and irregularities. When Republicans suggest Democrats are up to no good, it is universally decried as a paranoid, craven, or “openly authoritarian” attempt to delegitimize an election. When Democrats suggest an election was stolen, it’s a grave warning of a crisis that should require “international election monitors,” in the words of Dan Rather. When Florida senator Bill Nelson (D) refused to concede and move on, insisting that Scott was trying to steal victory, liberals didn’t call him a sore loser. And when Abrams refused to concede in Georgia and (still) refuses to say that Kemp is a legitimate governor, it’s hailed as heroic speaking truth to power. Such double standards are poisonous and contagious. Which is why you can be sure you’ll hear even more of this in 2020 — and not just from Donald Trump.

## FEDERAL

### Free Beacon: Top Dem Donors Hosted Director from Group that Registered Dead People to Vote

The left’s largest network of wealthy donors tapped an individual for a discussion on “expanding the electorate” at its fall investment conference from a group that was caught submitting fraudulent voter registration forms—including registering dead people to vote—and saw one of its employees go to prison for the crime. The Democracy Alliance, a dark money donor club that consists of more than 100 millionaires and billionaires who each vow to pour hundreds of thousands of dollars into the coffers of progressive groups every year, held a conference last week in Washington, D.C., where donors and progressive activists huddled to begin plotting their upcoming strategy for the 2020 elections. The Democracy Alliance has facilitated more than \$600 million in funds being pushed to approved groups of the network since its founding in 2005.

### Washington Examiner: When It Comes to Undermining Faith in Democracy, Another Low Point

For more than two years, voters have heard Democrats accuse Republicans of trying to undermine confidence in the American democratic system. If one sets aside the Russian effort to disrupt the 2016 election, the statements of Georgia Gubernatorial Candidate Stacey Abrams and her supporters after the mid-term election stand as some of the most powerful efforts to undermine confidence in the legitimacy of the American democratic system in recent years. More Democrats will surely accuse Republicans of trying to undermine faith in the electoral process. But Georgia proved that Democrats have done plenty of undermining themselves.

## STATES

### California: Jerry Brown Pardons California Lawmaker Convicted of Felony Voter Fraud

A former state senator convicted of lying about his residence and three refugees from Vietnam who could face deportation are among 38 people pardoned Wednesday by Gov. Jerry Brown ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday. Former Sen. Roderick Wright was convicted of felony charges of voter fraud and perjury in 2014 when a Los Angeles County jury determined he lived outside the district he represented. The Legislature has since changed the law to make Wright’s situation legal, and the state Supreme Court cleared the way for the pardon this week. Wright was sentenced to 90 days in jail then released almost immediately.

## **California: Nine Accused of Bribing LA Skid Row Homeless Voter Fraud Scheme**

Los Angeles County prosecutors have charged nine people with felonies alleging they offered money and cigarettes to homeless people on LA's Skid Row in exchange for false and forged signatures on ballot petitions and voter registration forms. The office of District Attorney Jackie Lacey says in a statement Tuesday the alleged offenses occurred during the 2016 and 2018 election cycles. The charges include circulating a petition with false names, use of false names on a petition, and voter fraud by registering fictitious or nonexistent persons. Prosecutors allege there were hundreds of solicitations for false or forged signatures and homeless people were offered a dollar or cigarettes for participation.

## **Florida: Palm Beach Went for iPads, Coloring Books Over Voting Machine Upgrades**

Palm Beach County decided to spend election-integrity funds on civic coloring books and iPads rather than on fixing voting machines that officials have long called a problem. Records show Palm Beach County this year used its \$909,000 share of HAVA funds to buy iPads for voters to check in at the polls. A 2009 audit of the county's elections department found the agency improperly spent \$48,000 in HAVA money on coloring books.

## **Florida: DeSantis Cheers Brenda Snipes' Resignation, Says Broward County 'Dropped the Ball'**

Republican Florida Gov.-elect Ron DeSantis appeared on "Fox & Friends" Monday to applaud the resignation of Broward County Election Supervisor Brenda Snipes and said there was "no way as governor that [he] was going to let her preside over another election. Obviously we're going to have to address some of the problems with the election administration in places like Broward and Palm Beach County," DeSantis said.

## **North Carolina: NC Republicans Reveal Their Voter ID Proposal**

Boards of elections would provide registration cards with photos, and students at North Carolina's public universities would be able to use their school IDs to vote under a draft voter ID bill that Republican legislators released Tuesday. The legislature is returning next week to pass a law to implement the constitutional change. An elections oversight committee is meeting Monday to discuss the proposal. An email from a spokesman for Senate leader Phil Berger described the proposal by Rep. David Lewis of Harnett County and Sen. Ralph Hise of Mitchell County as a "starting point," and said changes are likely.

## **Texas: Seven Reasons for Summary Judgment in Harris County Noncitizen Voter Data Case**

The Public Interest Legal Foundation's (PILF) filed a motion for summary judgment, citing a variety of undisputed facts regarding Harris County's possession and refusal to disclose noncitizen voter records as required by federal law. "The facts in this case are clear-cut and lead us to seek summary judgment to hopefully end the matter," PILF said. "Harris County officials are wasting taxpayer resources by trying to flaunt federal law by keeping the public in the dark about how voter rolls are maintained." The brief outlines seven core facts underscoring the necessity for a summary judgment on the case.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Free Beacon: Democrats' Redistricting Effort Touts Wins Where Steyer and Soros Invested**

The National Democratic Redistricting Committee (NDRC), an effort spearheaded by former Obama-era Attorney General Eric Holder, is claiming victory in several states targeted for a barrage of outside spending by a 527 group led by billionaire activists George Soros and Tom Steyer. Drawing new house districts will begin again after the completion of the 2020 census, which is why the NDRC is making such a strident push now in what they call a "fight to shift the balance of power away from Republicans before redistricting occurs in 2021."

### **New Jersey: New Jersey Democrats' Redistricting Plan Would Wipe Out GOP, Leader Says**

A plan to transform how New Jersey draws its legislative districts would keep Democrats in power permanently, a veteran Republican leader said. A bill backed by Democrats, who control the governor's office as well as the Assembly and Senate, seeks to put redistricting in the control of a 12-member panel, chosen in part by legislative leaders.



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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 09, 2019 11:11 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: Bernie courts the death row vote; while the United Nations sides with Donald Trump on census question. Late voting popular in California

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[Bernie courts the death row vote](#); while the [United Nations sides with Donald Trump](#) on census question. [Late voting popular in California](#); but election officials in [Florida](#) and [Missouri](#) taking steps to safeguard their elections. [These stories and more!](#)

## LEAD

### Bernie Sanders Says States Should Allow Felons to Vote From Behind Bars

While Iowa struggles on whether to restore voting rights to felons who have completed their prison sentences, Sen. Bernie Sanders said people convicted of felonies should never lose access to the ballot box in the first place. At a town hall meeting in Muscatine's West Middle School gymnasium Saturday, the Vermont senator was asked whether the imprisoned should have the right to vote. Only his home state and Maine allow felons to vote from behind bars. "I think that is absolutely the direction we should go," he said.

## FEDERAL

### Trump Warns GOP Should Be 'Paranoid' About Elections as States Spend Millions to Boost Voter Confidence

As President Donald Trump warns Republicans to be "a little bit more paranoid" about how votes are counted, states are spending millions in federal money to buy new voting machines, hire cybersecurity experts and update voting-registration systems. Republicans and Democrats in Congress agreed last year to give states \$380 million to improve the nation's elections systems with the aim of building voter trust in the process. Trump said Tuesday that he's concerned votes would be counted unfairly and in favor of Democratic candidates. "We have to be a little bit careful because I don't like the way the votes are being tallied," Trump said in an address to the National Republican Congressional Committee.

### SCOTUS Blog: Only in America

Foreign observers must be shaking their heads in disbelief that adding a citizenship question to the U.S. census has proved so controversial as to result in litigation. *Department of Commerce v. New York* will be argued before the U.S. Supreme Court on April 23. Predicting how the court will rule is always dicey. What is odd about the challenge by blue states and liberal advocacy organizations is that even the United Nations — an institution they often hold up as a model of progressivism that the United States should emulate — sides with the Trump administration on this issue. In its 2017 "Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses," the U.N. recommends that member countries ask census questions identifying both an individual's country of birth and country of citizenship.

### The Daily Signal: What the Electoral College Saves Us From

The latest enthusiasm from progressive pundits and activists for replacing the American system of self-government is to abolish the Electoral College and choose presidents by national popular vote. As with all such enthusiasms — expanding the Supreme Court, abolishing the filibuster and the Senate itself, lowering the voting age to 16, letting convicted felons and illegal aliens vote, adding D.C. and Puerto Rico as states, automatic voter registration, abolishing voter ID, etc. — the scarcely concealed argument is that changing the rules will help Democrats and progressives win more.

### The Monitor: Third Court Rules Against Citizenship Question in 2020 Census

A third judge has ruled that adding a citizenship question to the 2020 census would be unconstitutional, according to court records. In a nearly 120-page opinion filed Friday, U.S. District Judge George Hazel ruled the question's inclusion on the coming census would be unlawful. More than a month after closing

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arguments were held in the federal trial related to the 2020 Census, the court ruled against the defendants, which included the U.S. Census Bureau and U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, who oversees the bureau.

## **STATES**

### **California: Vote Provisionally in November 2018? Your Ballot Was Probably Counted**

Nine in 10 provisional ballots cast in California during last November's election were accepted, dispelling the notion that those ballots, given to voters with eligibility questions, don't count, according to state election officials. Also, about 58,000 Californians – just under 11,000 of them from Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties – took advantage of the state's first-ever offer of late voter registration in the Nov. 6 general election, Secretary of State Alex Padilla's office reported.

### **Colorado: Denver City Council Employee with History of Trouble Accused of Voter Registration Fraud**

The FOX31 Problem Solvers first investigated a Denver City Council policy analyst for using the city's affordable housing program to help himself. Now, Zachary Rothmier is accused of voter registration fraud.

### **Florida: Supervisors Support Elections Reform**

Florida's elections made headlines last year amid several hotly-contested races. Now the state house and senate are pushing bills to change the process for the future. Florida has a reputation for bungling elections. 2018 was no different, with reports of thousands of ballots not being counted along with several other issues being reported. Specifically, a lot of it stems from issues of vote-by-mail ballots and the sheer volume of the vote-by-mail ballots that came in. And we believe that it is a structural issue the way they were doing vote-by-mail ballots the timing that they go out, the timing when they come back. Those are things that are easily fixable," said Rep. Blaise Ingoglia (R-Springhill.)

### **Missouri: Bill Gives Subpoena Power to Secretary of State**

The Missouri House has endorsed a bill that would give subpoena power to the secretary of state to investigate alleged violations of election laws. The legislation, given initial approval Wednesday, would allow the secretary of state to subpoena ballots, computer programs and other materials related to voting as part of an investigation into election law violations. Republican Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft already has authority to conduct election-related investigations, but not to issue subpoenas. Republican lawmakers who supported the legislation said subpoena power is necessary to effectively carry out those investigations.

### **Oregon: Salem Woman Arrested on 35 Counts of Election Fraud, Identity Theft**

A Salem woman is being held on \$478,000 bail Thursday after being charged with 35 counts of making a false statement under election laws, aggravated identity theft and identity theft. Simone Thrasher, 23, a former paid circulator registered with Oregon Elections Division, is accused of making false statements, oaths or affidavits on several signature sheets submitted in December 2015. She also used the personal identification of at least 15 people on the petitions with the intent to deceive and defraud, according to court records.

### **Tennessee: Voter Registration Groups Could Face Fines for Too Many Incomplete Forms**

In the lead up to last year's midterm election, efforts to register Tennesseans to vote led to a noticeable influx of applications — and eventually a legal challenge. In Shelby County, one organization turned in 10,000 forms on the final day of registration, according to Secretary of State Tre Hargett. A similar significant increase in new voter registration was seen in Davidson County as well. But many of the registration forms contained incorrect or incomplete information, according to election officials. As a result, Hargett's office is behind a new bill that would require groups leading voter registration efforts to undergo training and potentially face fines for submitting too many incomplete forms.

### **Wisconsin: No Determination Yet on Drinks-for-Votes Complaint**

No determination has been made yet regarding a sign posted that purported to offer free drinks to those who voted for certain candidates in Somers. Somers Town Chairman Mark Molinaro alerted the Wisconsin

Elections Commission and the Kenosha County District Attorney's Office after seeking social media posts of the sign offering a free-drinks wristband in exchange for voting. The posts urged Somers residents to vote for Peter Gochis and Kevin Mathewson. It read: "Once you end up voting, send me a picture to verify you did and you will get a free wristband for tomorrow's party at Somers House. All help is greatly appreciated." Neither was elected. Molinaro said he made formal complaints to both the elections commission and the district attorney. "These actions are clearly violations of the election laws that are in place to safeguard against providing goods and services in exchange for votes," Molinaro wrote in his formal complaint.

## REDISTRICTING

### Wisconsin: Conservative Claims Win in Wisconsin Supreme Court Race, but Recount Likely

A conservative former adviser to ex-Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker (R) claimed victory in a closely fought race for a state Supreme Court seat in Wisconsin early Wednesday, potentially cementing a Republican-leaning majority for years to come. With all but a small handful of precincts reporting, Judge Brian Hagedorn clung to a narrow 6,000-vote lead — or about four-tenths of a percentage point — over Judge Lisa Neubauer, the candidate backed by Wisconsin's Democratic Party. The balance of power on the court has been crucial in a state where partisan fervor has risen to new heights. The conservative majority on the court upheld many of Walker's top priorities over the last decade, and the next majority — whether liberal or conservative — is likely to decide contentious issues like redistricting.

### Wisconsin: If Results Stand, Holder Loses Big in Wisconsin Election

Wisconsin voters appear to have delivered a stunning rejection to former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder's latest political objective, in a state that's not only sure to be a 2020 election battleground, but also pivotal in the upcoming decennial redistricting process. A key race in that effort occurred April 2, when liberal-backed judge Lisa Neubauer faced conservative judge Brian Hagedorn for a seat on the Wisconsin Supreme Court. Despite overwhelming outside support for Neubauer, the election has Hagedorn leading by nearly 6,000 votes. Holder was unusually active, in what would seem an inconsequential race for President Obama's former top law enforcement official. But he invested his time and reputation, as well as hundreds of thousands of donor dollars, in what looks to be another surprising Wisconsin defeat.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 13, 2018 10:17 AM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: Chaos in Broward County as Multiple Recounts Commence and Senator Rubio Calls Out "Shenanigans"; Voter ID Wins in North Carolina, Arkansas

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The statewide Florida recount begins for Governor and Senator. With chaos in Broward County, Senator Marco Rubio is outraged [with the shenanigans](#). Voter fraud in Alabama, [Texas](#), and [California](#). Automatic voter registration [wins approval](#) in Nevada. Voter ID referendums win approval by citizens in Arkansas and [North Carolina](#). The Kansas citizenship requirement for registration [advances to the appeals court](#). As the dust settles, what is the [redistricting impact](#) of the 2018 mid-term elections? Get up to speed with the [EIB](#).

## LEAD

### Washington Times: Rubio, GOP Attorneys Allege Election Shenanigans in Florida

Florida Republican Sen. Marco Rubio called what was happening in his state "an outrage" Friday night, as questions continued to swirl around the Senate and gubernatorial vote in Broward and Palm Beach Counties. Days after the deadline for early voting and the closing of polls on Election Day, officials in those two counties continued to make sporadic announcements of new vote counts, but the process has been opaque.

## FEDERAL

### Washington Times: Law Requiring a Birth Certificate to Register to Vote Advances to Appeals Court

The debate over how to sift out illegal voters from legal ones has reached the federal appeals court level, making it possible the Supreme Court eventually will rule whether a state can demand a birth certificate to register to vote. "This case should end up at the Supreme Court if the 10th Circuit doesn't overturn the district court opinion," said Hans von Spakovsky, a lawyer and Heritage Foundation election law expert. "The opinion is wrong on both the law and the facts. There is no violation of federal law simply because Kansas is trying to verify the citizenship of registered voters."

## STATES

### Alabama: Henry County Deputy Investigated for Voter Fraud, AG Says

Attorney General Steve Marshall revealed that a reserve deputy with the Henry County Sheriff's Office was arrested. A press release was sent out Monday explaining that Wylie Aaron Mathis, 46, was charged with giving false information during his voter registration. The deputy, a resident of Houston County, allegedly gave a fake address so he could vote in Henry County. "The laws of Alabama that protect the integrity of our elections are important to everyone. Those who violate our election laws and undermine the sanctity of our electoral process can expect to be vigorously prosecuted by my office."

### Arizona: Arizona Senate Vote Count Settlement Reached; Counties Given Extension to Cure Ballots

Republicans and Democrats in Arizona reached an agreement in court Friday that gives all counties in the state until this coming Wednesday to address problems with ballots, as vote tallying for the state's tight Senate race continues. The settlement comes after Republicans filed a lawsuit Wednesday in a bid to prevent Maricopa and Pima counties – the two biggest counties in the state – from using procedures that permit mail-in ballot fixes to occur beyond Election Day, arguing that the practice was improper.

### Arkansas: Arkansas Voters Approve Voter ID Measure

Arkansas voters have passed Issue 2, a constitutional amendment on voter ID. With 77% of precincts

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reporting late Tuesday night, the vote was 80% for and 20% against. The measure adds as a qualification to vote that a voter present certain valid photographic identification when casting a ballot in person or casting an absentee ballot. Issue 2 changes Article 3 of the Arkansas Constitution to amend the qualifications residents must meet in order to vote in an election in this state.

### **California: Three Charged with Voter Fraud in Kern County**

Three people have been charged with voter fraud in Kern County. According to the office of District Attorney Lisa Green, Gilberto De La Torre, John Byrne, and Fernando Osorio have been charged for violations of Election Code § 18560(a) or (b). The charges were filed as misdemeanors. A fourth person, Robert Lopez, Jr., was charged with perjury after allegedly falsely claiming non-citizenship on a jury summons to avoid jury duty. According to the D.A.'s office, perjury is a felony offense and all charges were a result of investigations by the Public Integrity Unit of the Kern County District Attorney's Office.

### **California: Northern California Woman Faces Felony Voter Fraud Charges for Allegedly Voting Twice**

The U.S. Justice Department is keeping a close eye on Sacramento County during Tuesday's election. The Civil Rights Division will be monitoring polling places to ensure voting rights laws are followed, and voter fraud is not tolerated. Deidra Vrooman is charged with felony election fraud for casting two ballots in the 2016 primary election. She said her intention was not to vote twice. Janna Haynes with Sacramento County Voter Registration and Elections says regardless of intent, it's a crime to vote twice. "What's important is not how many ballots you receive but the fact that you only vote one back because you can legally only vote one back," Haynes said.

### **California: Elections Office Updates Procedure to Avoid 'Multiple Voting'**

Concerned that some voters might be confused whether to vote by mail or in person and try to do both, Contra Costa County Elections Division has updated its procedures for Tuesday's mid-term election. In a statement issued, the Division said California law lets voters who are issued a vote-by-mail ballot to turn it in and vote at polls during Election Day. "Besides being a waste of taxpayer dollars, it has resulted in the possibility of a voter casting more than one ballot without immediate detection," the statement said. The Division reviewed its processes at polling places and updated its practices to ensure election integrity and to prevent multiple voting, the statement said.

### **Florida: Broward County Elections Supervisor Mixed Invalid Provisional Ballots into Valid Batch**

Broward County's elections supervisor mixed 20 invalid ballots with a pile of 205 valid ballots, giving more fuel to Republicans who have alleged Democrats are trying to steal the U.S. Senate election from Gov. Rick Scott, R-Fla., who faces incumbent Sen. Bill Nelson. Precinct workers had 205 voters fill out provisional ballots when the system at the precincts showed they weren't registered voters, which differed from information at Broward election headquarters. Upon reviewing those provisional ballots, the canvassing board found 20 of those 205 votes had mismatched signatures and said they were illegal.

### **Florida: State Orders Machine Recounts for Governor, U.S. Senate, Four Other Races**

Florida ordered mandatory machine recounts in three statewide elections Saturday for the first time in state history. Secretary of State Ken Detzner issued a one-page order directing all 67 counties to conduct a machine recount of all votes cast in the races for governor, U.S. Senator and commissioner of agriculture. The state placed a "machine recount indicated" banner in red letters below the first unofficial returns in all three races.

### **Florida: Judge Orders Broward Elections Chief to Turn Over Vote Counts to Scott's Campaign**

Broward Circuit Judge Carol-Lisa Phillips also held that Brenda Snipes, Broward's supervisor of elections, was in violation of Florida public-records laws for not turning over the records requested by Gov. Rick Scott's campaign for U.S. Senate.

### **Florida: Florida Will Restore Voting Rights to Felons**

Florida will restore voting rights to felons who have completed their sentences. Under the newly passed law, Florida will return voting rights to an estimated 1.5 million felons who have completed the terms of their sentence, including parole and probation. It does not apply to felons convicted of murder or sex



offenses. The constitutional amendment required approval by 60 percent of Florida voters to pass.

### **Massachusetts: Cracks in the Election System Raise Concerns About Double Voting**

Three voters were indicted in New Hampshire for allegedly double dipping in the race that got President Donald Trump elected. Massachusetts Secretary of State William Galvin says officials are trying to prevent a repeat. "We take great precaution," he said, showing letters his office has received in the last week from other states flagging former Massachusetts voters now registered in places like California, Tennessee, Vermont, to name a few.

### **Nevada: Nevada Voters Approve Automatic Voter Registration**

Nevadans approved a measure to make voter registration automatic when a person applies for an identification card or a driver's license. Under the ballot measure, the voter registration system at the state's Department of Motor Vehicles would require Nevada residents to check a box to decline voter registration instead of the former opt-in system, The Associated Press reports. The measure would also allow a resident's voter registration information to be automatically updated if he or she is already registered to vote.

### **New York: Jammed Scanners Frustrate Voters in New York City**

A two-page ballot caused havoc for scanning machines at polling places across New York City, as scores of broken scanners brought voting to a standstill at many locations on an Election Day marked by heavy turnout. Voters waited helplessly as the scanners stood idle. Mayor Bill de Blasio called the situation at poll sites "absolutely unacceptable" and said it showed that the city's Board of Elections was "broken." On Tuesday afternoon, he told 1010 WINS radio that the State Legislature must pass a law to turn the board into "a modern agency that knows how to provide the services it's charged with."

### **North Carolina: GOP Supermajority Will Write a New Voter ID Law Before More Democrats Take Office**

Republican state legislators in North Carolina plan to write more laws this month to take advantage of the last weeks that they hold a veto-proof majority. Voters approved an addition to the state constitution that will require changes to state law: a photo ID requirement for voters. The constitutional change will take effect on Nov. 27, when the state elections board certifies results, said Gerry Cohen, former general counsel to the General Assembly. Legislative leaders have scheduled their session to resume that day. Voters kept Republicans in control of the House and Senate but reduced their majorities enough that they won't be able to block Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper's vetoes without help from Democrats. But the new balance of power won't take effect until lawmakers' regular session in January.

### **Tennessee: Memphis Voters Shoot Down Instant Runoff Voting Repeal**

Memphis voters denied City Council members longer terms and overwhelmingly shot down a proposed repeal of instant runoff voting, according to unofficial vote tallies. Of the controversial trio charter amendments, the question that saw perhaps the most heated debate asked voters if they wanted to repeal instant runoff, or ranked-choice voting, before it's implemented for single-district council seats. Nearly 63 percent of Memphis voters, or 104,431, were against that ballot question, compared with 62,316 votes in favor of repealing ranked-choice voting. More than 70 percent of Memphis voters cast ballots in favor of instant runoff voting a decade ago, but the practice has not been implemented.

### **Texas: Non-Citizens Voting in Texas? "We got TONS of them" Says Election Official on Undercover Video**

Project Veritas has released undercover video of elections officials in Texas explain how non-citizens can vote in the November 6th 2018 Election.

### **Texas: Bettencourt Asks Texas Secretary of State to Investigate Voter Registration Challenges**

State Sen. Paul Bettencourt on Friday asked Secretary of State Rolando Pablos to investigate — with the help of the Texas Attorney General — whether the Harris County voter registrar is ensuring residents properly list their physical address on voter registrations, as required by law.

### **Texas: Nine People Arrested for Alleged Voter Fraud in Hidalgo County**

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Attorney General Ken Paxton announced that the Election Fraud Unit of his office arrested nine individuals accused of participating in an organized illegal voting scheme in Edinburg. The AG's office says the arrests follow an ongoing investigation into a coordinated effort by political workers to recruit people who agreed to fraudulently claim residential addresses so they could vote in specific city of Edinburg municipal races.

## REDISTRICTING

### Voters Approve Major Changes to Redistricting and Other Voting Laws

Across the country, states are on track to overwhelmingly change the way elections are run. In the ballot measures that passed Tuesday, voters in at least three states took the power to determine political boundaries away from state legislatures, while a similar proposition in Utah was too close to call. Voter registration deadlines could become a thing of the past in three states that are making it easier to take part in elections. Several states approved initiatives adopting voter ID laws that are aimed at curbing voter fraud (which has proved close to nonexistent despite claims to the contrary).

### Dems Gain Governors but GOP Keeps Several Big States Ahead of Redistricting Battles

Democrats flipped governorships in seven states Tuesday, installing governors poised to play key roles in the next redistricting process in 2021 and 2022 — but Republicans held onto several major states, giving no party a clear leg up two years ahead of the census. Haunted by their losses at the state level in 2010 and the years after, Democrats made redistricting a key organizing principle of the midterm elections, using the specter of political mapmaking to draw attention to state-level races and launching a new group, the National Democratic Redistricting Committee, to direct money to key races. Democratic wins in Kansas and Wisconsin broke up Republican "trifectas" — control of both state legislative houses and the governorship — in those states, while gains in Illinois, Maine, Nevada, and New Mexico gave Democrats full control over state government there.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 30, 2019 4:12 PM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: Democrat slice of Florida's voter registration pie shrinking; while Bernie campaigns on Death Row; and Texas Mayor charged for rigging his own election

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[Democrat slice of Florida's voter registration pie shrinking](#); while [Bernie campaigns on Death Row](#); and [Texas Mayor charged for rigging his own election](#). [SCOTUS leaning toward counting U.S. citizens](#); [Florida lawmakers move to prevent future recount disasters](#); and [North Carolina wants to crack down on absentee ballot buying](#). [Texas AG tells House Oversight Committee](#) to take a hike; while the [U.S. 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit rules politics no place for partisanship](#). [These stories and more...](#)

## LEAD

### Blue State Blues: Republicans Cannot Win If 'Ballot Harvesting' Remains Legal

California Republicans are determined to take back the four congressional seats they lost in Orange County in 2018, among the seven the party lost statewide. They have some political momentum, as Nancy Pelosi's Democrats have proven incapable of doing anything except arguing about impeaching President Donald Trump. Unfortunately, the tactic of "ballot harvesting," introduced last November, has made it impossible for Republicans ever to win again. A democracy cannot function if there is such a wide gulf in ideas about what democracy actually is, and how it should work. But there is almost no remedy, because Democrats hold a supermajority in both houses of the state legislature, and ballot harvesting virtually ensures perpetual one-party rule.

## FEDERAL

### Real Clear Politics: Why the Census Citizenship Question Matters

The objections to the citizenship question revolve around unjustified hysteria and the unfortunate, but growing, notion that citizenship doesn't matter. As attorney general of Oklahoma, I filed an amicus curiae brief joined by 16 other states in support of the citizenship question, in part to bring some sober thinking that should quell the unreasonable panic. Let's start with the Constitution: It gives Congress the power to conduct the "Enumeration ... in such Manner as they shall by Law direct." Congress, in turn, has by law delegated this authority to the secretary of commerce — authority that the Supreme Court characterizes as "virtually unlimited discretion." So, the Constitution certainly allows demographic questions, including about citizenship, beyond a simple enumeration.

### Free Beacon: At Census Question Oral Arguments, SCOTUS Seems to Lean Trump

The Supreme Court's conservative justices seemed ready Tuesday to preserve the Trump administration's addition of a question about a person's citizenship status to the 2020 decennial census. The case, *Department of Commerce v. New York*, is the high court's first direct look at an administration policy since it upheld the "travel ban" last year, *SCOTUSBlog* reports. At oral arguments on 4/23, it seemed like the balance of the court was swinging against New York. Justices John Roberts and Brett Kavanaugh directed most of their questions towards the state's lawyer, with Kavanaugh arguing that Congress gave the Secretary of Commerce "huge discretion" to select questions. Justices Neil Gorsuch and Samuel Alito, for their part, pushed back on the idea that a citizenship question would reduce response rates in-and-of itself, suggesting that other factors which differentiate citizens and non-citizens may explain any disparities. A decision in the case is expected over the summer. The Census will be carried out beginning April 1, 2020.

### Breitbart: Bernie Sanders Plan Would Allow 183K Murderers, 164K Rapists to Vote From Prison

Socialist Sen. Bernie Sanders' (I-VT) recent endorsement of giving voting rights to all American citizens who are currently in prison for local, state, and federal crimes would allow some 183,000 convicted murderers and 164,000 convicted rapists to vote from their jail cells. In a CNN town hall this week,

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Sanders endorsed allowing all convicted U.S. citizens — regardless of their crime — to vote from prison.

### **Daily Caller: Cher Slams Bernie Sanders after He Said Violent Felons ‘Still Deserve the Right to Vote’**

Cher slammed presidential hopeful Bernie Sanders over his belief that he thinks anyone over the age of 18 should be allowed to vote, including violent felons like terrorists and rapists in prison. “Does Bernie Sanders Really Believe [People] In Prison Who Are Murderers, Rapists, Child Molesters, BOSTON [Marathon] BOMBERS ...STILL DESERVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE,” the 72-year-old singer, who is rarely shy about her thoughts, tweeted to her millions of followers Tuesday.

## **STATE**

### **Florida: Voter Registration Numbers Increase Two-Fold after Amendment 4**

Amendment 4 appears to be increasing the number of Florida voters. In the three months after the constitutional amendment to restore voting rights to felons went into effect, voter rolls across the state grew at twice the rate they did four years ago, according to reports filed by county elections supervisors. The Division of Election website shows the state recorded a net increase of 16,354 voters, after 150,015 inactive voters were removed from the list between January and March 31. At this point in the election cycle four years ago, election supervisors reported a net increase of 7,030 voters after 63,985 names had been scrubbed from registration lists. New registered voters who checked the no political party box outpaced those who picked either Republican or Democratic. More than 13,424 people declared themselves to be a no party affiliated voter when they registered between January and March 31. While the faction of voters unaffiliated with any party continues to grow, the Democrats' slice of the voter registration pie continues to get smaller. In the first three months of the year, the GOP added 3,850 voters and the Democrats saw their numbers drop by 9,672. Overall, there are 13,412,976 Florida voters. The Democrats lead in voters with 37% of the total, while Republicans have a 35% share. NPAs are at 26%. Compared to four years ago, the NPAs have added two percentage points to their total while Republicans have held steady and the Democrats have dropped a point.

### **Florida: Florida Legislature Gets Closer to Putting a Disastrous 2018 Recount in the Past**

With the dust settled on another tumultuous recount, Florida lawmakers are closer to changing election laws to hopefully avoid the problems that plagued the 2018 midterms, and reduce the number of rejected ballots in a state where literally every vote counts. Legislation that would give election supervisors more time to count mail ballots and voters more time to fix problematic signatures began moving again Tuesday in the Florida Senate, passing out of committee after more than a month of inertia. With Florida's legislative session nearing a close, election officials who helped craft the bill are hopeful that it's on its way to becoming law.

### **North Carolina: After 9th District Scandal, Bill Would Make Paying for Absentee Ballot Request Forms a Crime**

A bill filed in the House this week addresses some concerns of state elections officials in the wake of absentee ballot tampering uncovered in last fall's 9th Congressional District election. Most notably, the measure would make paying or receiving payment for a completed absentee ballot request form a Class 2 misdemeanor.

### **Ohio: Ohio Would Move to Automatic Voter Registration Under New Proposal**

Ohio would join 15 other states with opt-out voter registration under a proposal spearheaded by the state's elections chief. It's part of a package of election law changes Republican Secretary of State Frank LaRose tapped a working group to hammer out within the next few months. He joined lawmakers of both parties in announcing the group Wednesday. LaRose wants voting-eligible Ohioans to be automatically registered to vote when they file taxes, renew a driver's license, get a fishing license or have some other interaction with a state agency, unless they proactively opt out. He also supports requiring state agencies to tell his office when a voter updates their address. He says the expanded information sharing would help avoid future voter purges like those civil-rights groups have unsuccessfully challenged in court.

### **Texas: Texas Attorney General Won't Submit Voter Roll Documents to House Oversight Committee**

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton is waging a new legal battle against Democrats in Washington, refusing to turn over documents to a House committee trying to investigate his state's efforts to kick noncitizens off its voter rolls. Mr. Paxton argues that, as a constitutional officer of a sovereign state, he's immune to demands for documents other than what's legally required under Texas law. He told House Oversight Committee Chairman Elijah Cummings earlier this month he would not comply with the panel's request.

### **Texas: Texas Border Mayor Charged for Voter Fraud, Accused of Rigging His Own Election**

The mayor of a town located near the Texas-Mexico border was charged Thursday with rigging his own election. The Associated Press reported Thursday that Edinburg Mayor Richard Molina is charged with organized election fraud and two counts of illegal voting for allegedly running an illegal scheme to have voters, including some living in an apartment complex he owned, to falsify their official addresses to be eligible to vote for him.

### **Wisconsin: Another Leftist Attack on Voter ID Laws**

The liberal 'Common Cause Wisconsin' group has filed suit in federal court over the state's requirement that college students prove they are who they say they are prior to casting a ballot. Wait.....someone is challenging this provision? Why? It's common sense that we should ensure that people who are trying to participate in our elections are on the up and up. None of us should want someone who is not legally allowed to vote in our elections voting in our elections. We have laws for a reason. If we don't meaningfully enforce those laws, we cannot be a legitimate nation. Common Cause is claiming that college students in Wisconsin are being unfairly singled out, because student IDs that are used for voting purposes are required to meet certain guidelines.

### **REDISTRICTING**

### **Michigan: Federal Court Rules MI Congressional & Legislative Maps are Unconstitutional; Must Be Redrawn**

A three-judge federal panel ruled on 4/25 that Michigan's congressional and legislative maps were unconstitutionally gerrymandered for partisan gain, ordering the state Legislature to redraw at least 34 districts for the 2020 election. The decision also requires special state Senate elections to be held in 2020, instead of 2022 as scheduled. It is the latest development in a series of redistricting lawsuits in at least a dozen states. The panel of judges held a trial after rejecting newly elected Democratic Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson's attempt to settle the suit by redrawing at least 11 state House districts for the 2020 election. GOP lawmakers who intervened in the suit have said the entire proceeding should be halted until the U.S. Supreme Court rules on redistricting cases from North Carolina and Maryland. In oral arguments last month, conservative justices who hold a 5-4 majority seemed wary of getting federal judges involved in determining when electoral district maps are too partisan.

### **Pennsylvania: State Senator Won't Have to Pay Legal Bills for PA Gerrymandering Case, Court Says**

A federal appeals court is reversing a judge's decision to make a high-ranking Pennsylvania state senator personally pay \$29,000 in legal bills for lawyers who successfully challenged Pennsylvania's congressional districts as unconstitutionally gerrymandered. The 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said Wednesday that Senate President Pro Tempore Joe Scarnati had been sued in his professional capacity, so he can't be liable personally.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 8:05 PM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: Democrats are out to seize electoral advantage by counting noncitizens in the 2020; H.R. 1 would federalize our election process; but does Broward County hold the key to stemming vote fraud?

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In this week's [Election Integrity Bulletin](#), Democrats are out to seize electoral advantage by [counting noncitizens in the 2020 Census](#); and [H.R. 1 would federalize our election process](#); but [does Broward County hold the key](#) to stemming vote fraud? Governor DeSantis [lets Brenda Snipes resign](#) but [suspends Palm Beach County's Election Chief](#). Meanwhile, [Stacey Abrams](#) wants noncitizens to vote; and [Kentucky has proposed children get the franchise](#). There's still no sign at [DOJ of the massive data request](#) from North Carolina; and the Trump DOJ has reversed the long-held Obama administration goal of returning federal control over [redistricting in Texas](#). And, more!

## LEAD

### Trump Must Go to the Mat Over Liberal Judge's Ruling on Census Question

A Manhattan district court judge earlier this week blocked the Trump administration from adding a question on citizenship to the 2020 census, and in doing so has sought to weaken executive power while strengthening the administrative state. The Trump administration has one choice here: Overturn this judicial overreach through appeal. The decision was biased and based on selective evidence. It needs to be overturned and corrected at once. As Judge Jesse M. Furman of the Southern District of New York himself observed in his ruling, "Time is of the essence because the Census Bureau needs to finalize the 2020 questionnaire by June of this year." The administration must therefore seek a stay at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and if that fails go straight to the Supreme Court for an expedited review.

## FEDERAL

### Does Broward County Hold the Key to Stemming Vote Fraud?

As politicians and political analysts like to say, "elections have consequences." Indeed, they do, and the corruption of elections have consequences as well, all of them dire. A law can be on the books, but if it's not enforced it might as well not exist. That has been the problem with Section 8 and why a federal lawsuit against Broward County, Florida now before the 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals has the potential to change the whole ballgame – in favor of legitimate voters. The *American Civil Rights Union v. Dr. Brenda Snipes* will finally give NVRA Section 8 the teeth it needs to protect authentic votes by defining the processes and procedures election officials must take to keep their voter rolls clean and accurate – literally cutting off the lifeblood of vote fraudsters. *ACRU v. Snipes* is scheduled for oral argument on March 12<sup>th</sup> and it's *the* case that can make a difference in how honest our elections will be in 2020.

### Mitch McConnell: Behold the Democrat Politician Protection Act

Right on cue, even as their refusal to invest in border security prolongs this partial government shutdown, House Democrats have wasted no time rolling out a sprawling proposal to grow the federal government's power over Americans' political speech and elections. House Democrats won't come to the table and negotiate to reopen government, but they've been hard at work angling for more control over what you can say about them and how they get reelected. They're trying to clothe this power grab with clichés about "restoring democracy" and doing it "For the People," but their proposal is simply a naked attempt to change the rules of American politics to benefit one party. It should be called the Democrat Politician Protection Act.

### Democrats Move to Strip States of Election Power

If at first you don't succeed, change the rules of the game so that you can. This has been the modus operandi of the Democrat Party for a long time, and Dems are again putting it to work with their new House

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majority. HR 1, the first bill to be introduced in the new session, has been euphemistically called the For the People Act. This so-called voter-reform bill was introduced by Rep. John Sarbanes (D-MD), and Democrats are hoping to use it to fundamentally change America's voting and campaign-finance system. How does it work? It's totally rigged to tip the scales in favor of a putting a leftist government in permanent power in the U.S. The first big thing the bill does is centralize the whole voting process at the federal level, cherry-picking state election laws that have created Democrat fiefdoms in deep blue states and making them national. One of the great strengths of the American voting system has always been that it is controlled by the individual states. But a socialist takeover of a country is harder when each state has its own say in how it elects public officials.

## **STATES**

### **Alabama: Alabama Mayor Convicted of Voter Fraud, Removed from Office**

The mayor of Gordon, Alabama, has been convicted of voter fraud and removed from office. News outlets report Elbert Melton was convicted Wednesday of unlawfully falsifying ballots when he was elected in 2016. He defeated challenger Priscilla Wilson by a 16-vote margin. This conviction strips him of his office. The Gordon Town Council will appoint an interim mayor to serve until an election is held. Melton was charged in September with absentee ballot fraud and second-degree theft of property. Arrest warrants say he knowingly obtained or exerted unauthorized control over \$1,700 that belonged to the town. Prosecutor Mark Johnson says the judge has released Melton on bond. Melton is set to be sentenced next month on the fraud charge. He still is facing the theft charge.

### **Florida: DeSantis Suspends Palm Beach County Elections Chief**

Citing failures to meet ballot counting deadlines during last year's contentious midterm election, Gov. Ron DeSantis suspended Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections Susan Bucher Friday afternoon and named Republican lawyer Wendy Link as her replacement to "right the ship" — though he said Link would not seek the office in the next election and only fill the post for two years. Bucher is the second elections official to lose her job over the November 2018 recounts. Former Broward elections chief Brenda Snipes announced she was resigning only to be suspended by former Gov. Rick Scott in late November. Link sits on the state university system's board of governors and is also a board member of the Economic Council of Palm Beach County. Bucher, a Democrat and former member of the Florida House, is expected to contest her removal before the Florida Senate, which reviews executive suspensions.

### **Florida: Brenda Snipes Says Gov. DeSantis Let Her Resign with 'My Name and My Dignity' Intact**

Gov. Ron DeSantis did something Friday his predecessor would not: Let former Broward Elections Supervisor Brenda Snipes leave office with her dignity intact. DeSantis did away with former Gov. Rick Scott's suspension of Snipes and accepted her resignation. Snipes welcomed the decision. "I was really concerned about restoring my name and my dignity," Snipes told the South Florida Sun Sentinel on Friday night. "Now there's no shadow hanging over the office that I led for 15 years." DeSantis said it was time to focus on the future.

### **Georgia: Stacey Abrams: 'I Wouldn't Oppose' Non-Citizens Voting in Local Elections**

Stacey Abrams said she would not oppose the extension of voting rights to non-citizens in local elections, offering her remarks in a Friday-aired interview on PBS's Firing Line with Margaret Hoover. Abrams ran for Georgia's governorship as the Democrats' nominee in 2018 and is the Democrats' former leader in Georgia's House of Representatives. Abrams predicted demographic change would benefit the Democrat Party. Abrams called for "mail-in voting" to become standard in national elections. Hoover did not ask about vulnerabilities to fraud in such a system. "I think that voting by mail makes a great deal of sense," said Abrams. "I would love to see mail-in — you know, vote by mail be a national standard."

### **Kentucky: Proposed Bill Would Allow Kentucky Minors to Vote in Local Elections**

This year, Kentucky lawmakers will consider amending the state's constitution to allow 16 and 17-year-olds the right to vote in local elections. The bill in question was pre-filed in 2018 by Democratic Senator Reggie Thomas of Lexington. The bill would allow minors to vote in school board and local elections, such as Lexington's recent mayoral race. If passed, Kentucky would become the first state to grant suffrage to minors. However, it would not be unprecedented for the state to pave the way in voting age reform; in 1955, Kentucky became the second state to lower the voting age from 21 to 18, preceded only by Georgia.



## **North Carolina: NC Officials Haven't Handed Over Massive Trove of Voter Data to Feds**

A demand from the U.S. Department of Justice for data on North Carolina voters has so far gone unanswered by state officials, despite a deadline to produce the records that passed this week. State Board of Elections General Counsel Josh Lawson said neither his office nor any of the county elections boards have provided any documents in response to subpoenas from the office of U.S. Attorney Robert Higdon. The subpoenas were originally issued in September and demanded eight years' worth of data on voters statewide, including five years of data and executed ballots from voters in 44 counties, as part of a grand jury investigation involving U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Complying would have required state and local boards, as well as the state Division of Motor Vehicles, to hand over millions of records on the state's registered voters just six weeks before the November election. Mounting concern over the demand prompted Justice Department attorneys days later to delay the production deadline until Jan. 14, clarify they wanted only redacted documents and offer to scale back the request.

## **North Carolina: Ballot Harvesting vs. the GOP**

Events of the past couple of months suggest conservatives who wish to maintain the integrity of American elections are looking in the wrong place. We shouldn't be so worried about who turns up at the polls, but who doesn't and yet still casts a vote. "Ballot harvesting," where individuals drop-off a large number of others' postal absentee votes, is in vogue. It's a worrying trend. Manipulation of absentee voting is a threat graver than voter impersonation. The 9th District aside, ballot harvesting is something Democrats can do and have done "better." Grassroots operations facilitate access to voters who don't want to go to the polls or are willing to have others deliver ballots for them. Their frequent ambivalence about politics and residence in many insular communities with cultures of political corruption make them especially vulnerable to ballot harvesters.

## **North Carolina: A Green Card Holder Voted Illegally 3 Times in North Carolina. The Judge Scolds Election Officials.**

Hyo Suk George lived legally in the United States for nearly 20 years before she voted in her first election, coaxed to cast her ballot by an enthusiastic town council member at church. To register, she presented a green card, Social Security number and driver's license —proof enough for the elections officials in Columbus County —then voted in 2008, 2010 and 2016. But on Thursday, George, 70, faced charges of illegal voting from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, for which she might have spent six months in prison. Instead, U.S. District Court Judge Terrence Boyle chastised the elections board in Whiteville, letting George go with a \$100 fine.

## **Tennessee: Judge Dismisses Tennessee Instant Runoff Voting Lawsuit**

A judge has dismissed a lawsuit that sought to deem instant runoff voting legal in Tennessee, noting that an administrative challenge on the topic remains unresolved. This week, Davidson County Chancellor Anne Martin dismissed the lawsuit by several prospective Memphis city council candidates and IRV Memphis, Inc. against state elections coordinator Mark Goins and Shelby County's Election Commission. Memphis voters in 2008 approved city election instant runoff voting. They rejected a November referendum repeal attempt. The system lets voters rank choices, avoiding runoffs when no candidate tops 50 percent. The lawsuit says Shelby's elections administrator planned to begin instant runoff voting in 2019 municipal elections. Then, Goins wrote that Tennessee law doesn't allow ranked-choice voting. Martin wrote that the parties that sued didn't properly intervene in the yet-to-be-decided administrative case.

## **Texas: Another Noncitizen Indicted for Voter Fraud in 2016**

A non-United States citizen was charged, arrested, and indicted for illegally voting in the November 2016 general election, says Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton. Late Tuesday, Paxton announced that Marites Canete Curry, a noncitizen Navarro County resident, was charged with one count of illegal voting following an investigation by the AG's election fraud unit. According to the AG's office, Navarro County election records indicated Curry illegally registered to vote in June prior to casting a ballot in November 2016. In Texas, illegal voting is a second-degree felony punishable up to 20 years in prison and a up to a \$10,000 fine. From 2005 to 2017, the attorney general's office prosecuted 97 defendants for numerous voter fraud violations, according to the press release. In 2018, Paxton's election fraud unit, with the assistance of a criminal justice grant from the office of Texas Governor Greg Abbott, prosecuted 33 defendants for a total of 97 election fraud violations. This included investigations and/or prosecutions involving noncitizen voting

cases, as was reported by Breitbart News.

## REDISTRICTING

### Texas: Trump Administration Opposes a Return to Federal Oversight for Texas Redistricting, Reversing Obama-Era Stance

In the latest about-face on voting rights under President Donald Trump, the U.S. Department of Justice no longer supports efforts to force Texas back under federal oversight of its electoral map drawing. In legal filings this week, the Justice Department indicated it would side against the voters of color, civil rights groups and Democratic lawmakers who want a three-judge federal panel in San Antonio to require Texas to seek pre-approval of its legislative and congressional maps, given previous maps that the federal judges ruled discriminatory. "The United States no longer believes that [federal supervision] is warranted in this case," federal attorneys said in their filing to the court. It's the latest twist in the high-stakes legal fight that could return Texas to the days when it couldn't make changes to its maps without the Justice Department or a federal court first ensuring that state lawmakers weren't infringing on the political clout of voters of color — a voting rights safeguard that was in place for decades until 2013. And it's the most recent reversal by the Justice Department in the case.

### Wisconsin: Democrats Oppose Delay of Wisconsin Redistricting Case

Democrats challenging Republican-drawn political maps in Wisconsin are opposing a request by the GOP-controlled state Assembly to delay a trial scheduled to start in April. Attorneys representing Democratic voters on Monday said in a federal court filing that Republicans are trying to "run out the clock on the 2011 gerrymander." They say delaying the trial as requested would make it "nearly impossible" to get a final decision from the U.S. Supreme Court before the 2020 elections. The Legislature will draw new maps in 2021, based on the 2020 Census. Assembly Republicans earlier this month asked the court to delay the trial until after the U.S. Supreme Court rules in a pair of other gerrymandering cases in North Carolina and Maryland that would affect the Wisconsin lawsuit. Democratic Wisconsin Attorney General Josh Kaul took no position on the GOP delay request.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 26, 2019 10:26 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: Democrats creep closer to killing the Electoral College; defeated Florida candidate Gillum seeks 1 million new voters to crush Trump re-election

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Democrats creep closer to [killing the Electoral College](#); and defeated Florida candidate Gillum [seeks 1 million new voters](#) to crush Trump re-election. Meanwhile, Arizona now [requires early voters prove their identity](#); ACLU cries foul over Pennsylvania [requiring absentee ballots arrive by the deadline](#); and Georgia SOS investigating why [4,700 requested absentee ballots went missing](#). Texas officials hot on the trail - Starr County District Attorney "star" [advocate for anti-vote fraud measure](#); while Nueces County Clerk amasses [evidence of ballot mischief](#) in pursuit of vote fraudsters. [These stories and more](#).

## LEAD

### In Defense of the Electoral College

Senator Elizabeth Warren has joined a growing chorus within the Democratic party in calling for the abolition of the Electoral College. A large portion of the Democratic party's present animosity toward the Electoral College is rooted in rank partisanship. Since they watched their supposed "blue wall" evaporate in the small hours of the 2016 presidential election, many Democrats have felt sufficient anger with the system to seek to remake it. This habit has by no means been limited to the Electoral College. Indeed, no sooner has the Democratic party lost control of an institution that it had assumed it would retain in perpetuity than that institution has been denounced as retrograde and unfair. In the past year alone, this impulse has led to calls for the abolition or reinvention of the Senate, the Supreme Court, and more. Insofar as there does exist a serious argument against the Electoral College, it is increasingly indistinguishable from the broader argument against the role that the states play within the American constitutional order, and thus from the argument against federalism itself.

## FEDERAL

### OneNewsNow: Anti-Electoral College Plan Almost Two-Thirds There

Democrats have long opposed the Electoral College because with overwhelming margins of victory in high-population states like California they could dominate future presidential elections based on the popular vote. Hans von Spakovsky is senior legal fellow at The Heritage Foundation and a former commissioner on the Federal Election Commission. He says a movement going on in all 50 states sponsored by the National Popular Vote, an advocacy group in California, claims they can get rid of the Electoral College's effects by having the states agree to a state compact. "The state compact they are pushing is for state legislatures to agree that in future presidential elections they will not award the Electoral College votes of their state according to whichever presidential candidate got the most votes in their state," he explains. "Instead they would award their Electoral College votes to whichever candidate won the national popular vote." According to the National Popular Vote website, 11 states (plus the District of Columbia) have enacted the law, representing 172 electoral votes: California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Illinois, Massachusetts, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington – all Democrat-controlled states. Colorado is expected to join this group soon, bringing that count up to 181.

### Daily Caller: Election Expert Says Electoral College Had Nothing to do with Slavery

Attorney and election expert Tara Ross said the Electoral College has nothing to do with slavery during an interview with "Fox & Friends" Wednesday. "You hear today that it's just about slavery and the southern slave-owning states wanted to have an Electoral College. Nothing could be further from the truth," she said. "If you look at the discussions, it was large versus small. Some of the large were northern states. Some of the large were southern states. And vice versa. It was about the size of the states. It was not about slavery at all. It was about, 'let's have a presidential candidate who addresses the needs of the whole country.'" Ross said small states were concerned about being left out of the fold, which led to a compromise and the current system in place today. "The small states were terrified that they would be run

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over by the large state delegates if anything like that were to happen,” she said earlier in the interview.

## **STATES**

### **Arizona: Arizona Will Require Identification for Early Voting**

Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey has signed legislation requiring identification to cast a ballot in person at an early voting center. The measure signed Friday requires early voters to provide the same forms of ID they'd have to show to vote on Election Day. It doesn't apply to those who vote with a ballot received in the mail. Republicans passed the bill in party-line votes of the House and Senate saying early voters shouldn't be able to get around the identification requirement.

### **Arizona: Arizona Ends Participation in National Voter Registration Database**

Arizona's top elections official has removed the state from a national voter registration system that critics have called inaccurate and vulnerable to hackers. Secretary of State Katie Hobbs announced Tuesday that the state has been withdrawn from the Interstate Voter Registration Crosscheck program. “I am not willing to take any chances with the security and accuracy of our voter registration list,” she said in a statement, adding that her office will not send any information to Crosscheck.

### **Colorado: Colorado Voters Evenly Split Over 'National Popular Vote' Law, Poll Shows**

Colorado voters are evenly divided over a move to repeal a law that would hand the state's Electoral College votes for president to the candidate who wins the popular vote nationally, a new Magellan Strategies poll found. The poll, conducted by the Colorado-based Republican firm and made available before its release to Colorado Politics, found that 47 percent of likely Colorado voters approve of changing the way Colorado awards its electoral votes, while 47 percent said they would vote to reject the new law and keep things as they are, with opinion falling solidly along party lines. Voter opinion about the Electoral College is also split, with 49 percent saying they have a favorable opinion of it and 47 percent saying they have an unfavorable opinion.

### **Florida: Gillum's 'Red Flag' Plan to Stop Trump: 1M More Florida Voters**

Andrew Gillum announced a plan Wednesday to register and turn-out 1 million new and low-propensity Florida voters in an effort to crush President Donald Trump's reelection chances in the nation's largest swing state. “Voter registration is red flag No. 1,” the former Tallahassee mayor told POLITICO, calling increased voter registration crucial to the Democratic Party's ability to survive and thrive in Florida. “We're looking at a target of 1 million,” he said. “We've got over 3 million people eligible to vote, and that's to say nothing of the 1.4 million returning citizens” — former felons in line to have their voting rights restored under a constitutional amendment approved by voters last year. Gillum's staff wouldn't give specifics about the targeted number of new voters he hoped to register or the number of voters they hope to reengage after they decided not to vote in the past two general elections. At the same time, the Florida Democratic Party said it will spend \$2 million in the next year to register 200,000 voters ahead of the 2020 presidential primary.

### **Georgia: New Investigation Targets Lost Georgia Absentee Ballot Requests**

Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger is opening a new investigation into allegations that 4,700 absentee ballot requests went missing before November's election. Raffensperger, a Republican, announced the investigation Thursday after the Democratic Party of Georgia had alleged last fall that 4,700 DeKalb County voters sent ballot applications to the county elections office but never received their absentee ballots in the mail. “There is nothing I take more seriously than guaranteeing election integrity and bringing free and fair elections to every eligible voter, whether they choose to vote absentee or on Election Day,” Raffensperger said. “My office will exhaust every resource to investigate these allegations.”

### **Pennsylvania: PA Rejected Twice as Many Absentee Ballots in 2018**

Pennsylvania elections officials rejected more than twice as many absentee ballots during last year's midterm elections than they did in 2010. That year, 1.9 percent of absentee ballots were rejected compared with 4.7 percent in 2018. The rate is rising because the deadline for getting ballots counted is too early, critics said. Since the vast majority of absentee ballots are rejected for arriving after the deadline, the ACLU is suing Pennsylvania, which has the earliest deadline in the country — ballots must arrive by

the Friday before the election. The group filed the lawsuit along with nine Pennsylvania voters who claim that the early deadline disenfranchised them. Out of the 205,559 absentee ballots submitted in Pennsylvania during the 2018 midterms, 9,741 were rejected.

### **Texas: Starr DA Testifies on Voter Fraud**

Election fraud cases stemming from a Starr County investigation launched by 229th District Attorney Omar Escobar last year were the focus of his testimony Monday before a Senate Committee on State Affairs regarding an “election integrity” bill. Filed by state Sen. Bryan Hughes, R-Mineola, Senate Bill 9 would tighten laws around mail-in ballots and voter assistance. It would also increase the penalties for making a false statement on a registration application and illegally assisting voters to a state jail felony.

Additionally, the standard to prove voter fraud in an election contest would be raised from having to provide “clear and convincing evidence” to a “preponderance of evidence.” Escobar testified in support of the bill by speaking on the DA office’s efforts, beginning in January 2018, to enforce state election laws that were enacted in 2017.

### **Texas: Why Ballot Fraud Is as Big as Texas**

Although part of her job description is making sure elections are fair and square, Nueces County Clerk Kara Sands hadn’t given much thought to ballot fraud until a constable candidate from a nearby suburb visited her office in May 2016. The ex-cop was familiar with how voter fraud worked, Sands said, and “he was afraid that people in Robstown were using the mail-in ballots illegally” in a Democratic primary runoff. That galvanized the Republican official, and it wasn’t long before her second-floor office became a repository of voter mischief: Cardboard boxes, ballot application envelopes, voter registration lists, and other papers heaped on an aged beige couch, a round wooden table and the across the floor. Atop one stack of papers: a list of mail-in ballot applications all signed and witnessed by the same person, a clue to illegal ballot-harvesting. Because much of the fraud involves unwitting older voters and the homebound, Sands also visits local nursing homes and knocks on the doors of voters from whom she has received complaints. “People don’t even realize their votes are being stolen,” Sands said. “The harvesters come along at election time and bring food, they have these neighborhoods mapped out and they can go door to door and build relationships. Mostly elderly people are being victimized and they don’t even know it.” Texas leads the nation in prosecutions of election fraud — since January 2018, 33 people have been convicted of election crimes in cases brought by the state attorney general’s office, and 13 more have cases pending.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Virginia: Supreme Court Weighs Race Factor in Virginia Gerrymandering Case**

The Supreme Court Monday waded into a long-running dispute over the use of race as a factor in drawing Virginia’s state legislative districts, setting the stage for a major decision that could reshape the electoral landscape in a key swing state on the eve of the 2020 presidential election. The case centers on 11 state House of Delegates districts whose boundaries were drawn in 2011 following the 2010 census and have high numbers of black voters. Critics allege the map was drafted to “pack” racial minorities into districts to limit their political influence elsewhere; defenders say race did not predominate other race-neutral considerations. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 requires states like Virginia with a history of systemic discrimination to consider race as a factor when drawing boundaries. However, the 14th Amendment’s Equal Protection Clause limits states from using race to restrict voting rights of a minority group. The justices grappled openly with that balancing act, and how to measure it fairly. “I’m wondering how a state can comply with the Voting Rights Act on the one hand and Equal Protection on the other in this narrow band,” said Justice Brett Kavanaugh.

### **Wisconsin: Scott Walker to Raise Money for Republican Redistricting Group**

Former Gov. Scott Walker will lead fundraising for a Republican group focused on drawing maps for Congress and state legislatures. As fundraising chairman for the National Republican Redistricting Trust, Walker will serve in some ways as a counterpoint to Eric Holder, the former attorney general under President Barack Obama who has been active in Wisconsin politics since last year. Holder oversees the National Democratic Redistricting Committee. Both groups say they want to ensure redistricting is fair after the 2020 census, but they’re likely to differ on what qualifies as fair.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 12, 2019 10:44 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: House Democrats pass H.R. 1 "Power Grab" to totally upend our electoral process -- even the ACLU calls it unconstitutional!

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House Democrats pass H.R. 1 "[Power Grab](#)" to totally upend our electoral process -- even the [ACLU calls it unconstitutional](#)! Now that the state's [election vulnerability](#) has been exposed, Oregon pursues [giving the vote to children](#), while a senior noncitizen is [nabbed for vote fraud in Florida](#). Hawaii is racing to make [voting early and often easier](#); and believe it or not, Cook County, Illinois is [investigating reports of vote buying](#). On a sane note, a Kansas grand jury [refused to indict Kris Kobach](#). And more in [this week's EIB](#)...

## LEAD

### Breitbart: House Dems Look for 'Power Grab' with H.R. 1 Effort to Overhaul Voting, Elections

Once a year, dignitaries gather in Selma, Alabama for the annual commemoration of 1965's "Bloody Sunday" Edmund Pettus Bridge crossing. During election cycles, many of those dignitaries are Democratic Party politicians, and even some seeking the highest office in the land, the United States presidency. If there was a takeaway from the occasion, Democrats are looking to make voter suppression and voting rights one of the main issues of the campaign. Right out of the gate, Democrats filed H.R. 1, titled as the For the People Act of 2019. The bill, sponsored by Rep. John Sarbanes (D-MD), includes a number of initiatives Democrats have long advocated. Among those items included in the nearly 600-page bill are internet, automatic and same-day voter registration, restriction on removing or purging names from voter rolls. "H.R. 1 is a nothing but a liberal wish list and massive government overreach forcing states into a one-size-fits-all approach to administering elections," Rep. Mike Rogers (R-AL), the ranking Republican on the House Homeland Security Committee, said to Breitbart News.

## FEDERAL

### Washington Times: ACLU Blasts Democrats' Election Bill as Unconstitutional

The American Civil Liberties Union dealt a blow Monday to Democrats' new election overhaul legislation, saying the bill does too much damage to the First Amendment and the storied rights group cannot support it. ACLU officials said they support parts of the bill, such as making it easier to register to vote, but said the legislation attempts to control even the mere mention of a politician, which goes too far. "They will have the effect of harming our public discourse by silencing necessary voices that would otherwise speak out about the public issues of the day," the ACLU's national political director and senior legislative counsel wrote in a 13-page letter announcing opposition. Democrats plan to put the bill, H.R. 1, on the chamber floor for a vote later this week. They've cast it as their top legislative priority, after saying last year's elections were tainted by too many problems with voting, and too much money controlling the outcomes of elections and legislating.

### NYPPost: Census Bureau Quietly Seeking Status of Millions of Immigrants

Under a proposed plan, the Department of Homeland Security would provide the Census Bureau with a broad swath of personal data about noncitizens, including their immigration status, the Associated Press has learned. A pending agreement between the agencies has been in the works since at least January, the same month a federal judge in New York blocked the administration from adding the citizenship question to the 10-year survey. On Wednesday, a federal judge in California also declared that adding the citizenship question to the Census was unconstitutional, saying the move "threatens the very foundation of our democratic system." The data that Homeland Security would share with Census officials would include noncitizens' full names and addresses, birth dates and places, as well as Social Security numbers and highly sensitive alien registration numbers, according to a document signed by the Census Bureau and obtained by AP.

PJ Media: Democrats Want Children to Vote

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Oregon legislation to allow children to vote should bring to an end our first reaction to crazy ideas involving our elections -- namely laughter. It's dangerous to laugh at proposals like child-voting when the advocates are deadly serious. Oregon Senator Shemia Fagan introduced legislation at a press conference to allow sixteen-year-olds to vote. She was flanked by teens wearing homemade T-shirts criticizing firearms. "Sixteen-year-olds are couch surfing with friends while their families are experiencing homelessness and begging us to take action to protect their future and planet," Fagan said. As long as democracies have existed, and as long as this democratic republic has existed, voters must be adults. This, the latest in a long march of transformational rules over our elections, is a loud alarm that these efforts to change election process rules are really an effort to change America.

## **STATES**

### **Delaware: Senate Approves Compact Giving State's Electoral College Votes to Winner of Nation's Popular Vote**

When Delawareans head to the polls to cast ballots in future elections, their votes might not decide which presidential candidate gets the state's three votes in the electoral college. That scenario would play out under an interstate compact the state Senate voted to join on Thursday in a 14-7 decision. Senate Bill 22 would enter Delaware into an agreement with other states to tie their votes in the electoral college to the winner of the nationwide popular vote, regardless of how individual states voted. The compact does not go into effect until enough states sign onto the agreement and pool together an aggregate of at least 270 votes in the electoral college --- a majority needed to elect a president. Legislatures in eleven Democratic-leaning states and the District of Columbia have signed onto the agreement, representing 181 votes. Delaware may only represent three votes in the electoral college but passing Senate Bill 22 would reduce the remaining votes needed to reach the threshold of 270 votes.

### **Florida: Woman, 71, Used Fake Citizenship Papers to Vote**

A 71-year-old woman who prosecutors say used a counterfeit naturalization certificate to vote in at least five Alachua County elections was arrested Wednesday. Aida Xilomen Rodriguez de Shehab, who authorities say is not a U.S. citizen, faces five counts of being unqualified elector willfully voting and four counts of submitting false voter registration information, according to the charging document filed Feb. 25 by State Attorney Bill Cervone. Rodriguez de Shehab, a registered Democrat, voted in elections — possibly in more than one county — over several years, Cervone said. His office was alerted to the case after receiving a tip from investigators in Duval County, where de Shehab is now registered to vote. Rodriguez de Shehab repeatedly voted while knowing she wasn't qualified, Cervone said, but the charging document does not indicate that she voted in the same election twice. In the charging document, Cervone said she voted illegally in Alachua County elections on Aug. 28, 2018, March 20, 2018, March 14, 2017, and Aug. 30, 2016. She also voted illegally in Alachua County on Nov. 8, 2016, which was the U.S. presidential election.

### **Hawaii: Lawmakers Pass Automatic Recount, Voter Registration**

Hawaii lawmakers have passed several bills to reform how elections are run in the state. In the state House, the measures include requiring automatic recounts when victory margins are exceptionally narrow, voting by mail across the state and automatic voter registration. Another bill would use ranked-choice voting for special elections and partisan primary contests. The bills are heading to the state Senate for consideration. The state Senate has also passed a voting by mail bill and an automatic recount measure. These will go to the House for consideration. House Judiciary Committee Chairman Rep. Chris Lee says lawmakers want to make it easier for everyone to vote. He says this is especially true in Hawaii where voters have a low turnout rate for elections.

### **Illinois: Cook County Investigating Reports of Vote Buying in Harvey**

The Cook County sheriff's office has opened an investigation into alleged voter fraud in Harvey at the request of the county clerk's office, an agency spokeswoman said. Spokeswoman Sophia Ansari declined to elaborate on the nature of the allegations or when they were made, but said the investigation had been launched recently and could lead to criminal charges.

### **Illinois: Republican Lawmaker Says There's Voter Fraud Across the State Including Jackson County**



State Rep. Allen Skillicorn, (R) East Dundee, wants to take tougher action against people who vote twice. "It undermines our democracy," Skillicorn said. "The state's attorneys across the state of Illinois are not prosecuting election fraud. These are documented, audited cases of election fraud." He cites records from the Illinois State Board of Elections, detailing about 130 people cast two ballots or more, mostly in the Chicagoland area. It's not nearly as prevalent in southern Illinois but Jackson County has four cases of people casting at least two ballots in 2016. Jackson County Clerk Frank Byrd said each case was forwarded to the FBI. "We go into the state database and we compare history. We look for issues," Byrd said. "If it's found, we turn it over to the FBI and hopefully action is taken." Skillicorn filed two bills: HB 2633 would add Illinois to the Interstate Voter Registration Crosscheck Program, despite a study that says the program purges valid voters from voter rolls far more than invalid voters. HB 2632 would enhance criminal penalties for filing more than one vote and make it a felony to vote in different states.

### **Iowa: Bipartisan Bill to Uniformly Count Mail-In Ballots Advances**

Lawmakers in the Iowa House advanced a bill Tuesday that would ensure absentee ballots that get mailed on time are counted in a consistent way. It is a bipartisan effort to avoid repeating what happened in a recent northeast Iowa contested election that was separated by nine votes. The House ultimately voted along party lines in January to not count 29 mail-in ballots in House District 55. According to Republicans, the ballots didn't have the right kind of barcode to prove they were mailed on time. Democrats said the ballots were mailed on time and refusing to count them amounted to disenfranchising voters. Rep. Jon Jacobsen, R-Council Bluffs, said the bill (with amendments) requires all counties to pay for and use the same barcode system so that all ballots are treated equally across counties. "I think uniformity is absolutely mandatory, that all of the counties do this in a similarly situated way, otherwise we're back to Bush v. Gore where we would have different counting standards in different counties," Jacobsen said.

### **Kansas: Citizen Grand Jury Disbands in Kobach Case Without Returning Indictment**

A citizen-initiated grand jury that was impaneled in January to investigate alleged election-related crimes by former Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach's office has adjourned without bringing an indictment, according to a court document in the case. After reviewing the citizen petition, exhibits and testimony of witnesses, the grand jury found "no cognizable crime under the laws of the State of Kansas," said the document, obtained Wednesday by the Journal-World. Otherwise, as with any type of grand jury, the panel's proceedings were secret and closed to the public, from jury selection to investigative actions it may have taken. Steven Davis, the Lawrence resident who petitioned to convene the grand jury, said Wednesday that he was disappointed in the outcome but that he respected the process. In his calls for the grand jury, Davis had alleged that Kobach's office failed to properly register a number of voters in 2016 who applied for registration while renewing their driver's licenses or filling out an online form through the Kansas Department of Revenue's website.

### **Oregon: Uncounted Oregon Votes Expose Election Vulnerability**

Days before last November's elections, members of a political action committee in Oregon went door-to-door in Portland and its suburbs and collected filled-in ballots from voters, saying they would send them in. But the committee delivered about 100 of those ballots to an election's office a day after the election. They were not counted, disenfranchising those voters. The secretary of state fined the committee \$94,750. As doubts arise in the nation about security of election systems that can be hacked and about reliance on aging or inadequate voting machines, more attention is being paid to voting by mail. After Oregon pioneered the all-mail vote in 2000, Colorado and Washington state followed suit. The incident in Oregon exposed a potential election vulnerability. An organization collecting ballots might mishandle ballots, as happened last year, or even dump them to try to sway an election. No one knows how many groups in Oregon collect ballots to turn in because state government officials in charge of elections don't track the groups.

### **Tennessee: NAACP President Says He Asked Grimes' Office to Search Voter Rolls for Education Board**

The office of Kentucky Secretary of State Alison Lundergan Grimes has found an explanation for why one of her staffers searched for information about members of the Kentucky Board of Education in the state's voter registration database. The additional information comes a little more than a day after the State Board of Elections publicly released details about those searchers and hundreds of others, and more than a month after the Lexington Herald-Leader and ProPublica first reported that employees of Grimes had used the voter registration system to look up political rivals, state investigators and a range of political

operatives. The news organizations also found that Grimes has gained unprecedented power over the elections board, detailing how she pushed through a \$150,000 contract to a cybersecurity consultant that state employees had worried was unqualified, but whose CEO had donated to Grimes' campaigns. The reporting also showed Grimes and then-assistant secretary of state Lindsay Hughes Thurston had instructed elections board staff to delay acting on a federal consent decree aimed at cleaning the state's voter rolls.

**The American Civil Rights Union**

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 15, 2019 10:23 AM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: House Democrats' number one priority, H.R. 1, is a "grab-bag" to shift state control over elections to the federal government; Virginia's governor is out to repeal the state's voter ID law and permit "no excuse" absentee voting

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[House Democrats' number one priority, H.R. 1, is a "grab-bag"](#) to shift state control over elections to the federal government; [Virginia's governor is out to repeal](#) the state's voter ID law and permit "no excuse" absentee voting; North Carolina vote fraud findings from 2016 [went unaddressed by the U.S. Department of Justice](#) and pressure is mounting as the 9<sup>th</sup> District seat remains uncertified. [Iowa voters will need to show ID in 2019](#); and Virginia's process to [remove noncitizens from voter rolls](#) is under scrutiny. While [a federal judge agreed](#) with Dr. Brenda Snipes that Governor Rick Scott overstepped when he suspended her as Broward's election chief, she didn't get her job back. All in [the latest EIB](#).

## LEAD

### Incoming NASS Leader Rejects Democrats' H.R 1

## FEDERAL

### H.R. 1: Democrats Act to Strip State Powers Over Elections

If you thought the midterm elections had problems, wait until you learn about Nancy Pelosi's plan to terminate state control over American elections. Democrats in Congress have announced their top legislative priority, and it isn't health care, immigration, or taxes. Instead, they want to centralize power over elections in Washington, D.C. H.R. 1 is number one on the legislative agenda because it is the number one priority of House Democrats, leftist groups, deep-pocketed dark money, and those who use election process rules to help win elections -- or at least to cause chaos. The bill is a 571-page dreamscape of wild wishes and federal mandates on states. The Constitution decentralizes power over American elections and puts states in charge. H.R. 1 would undo that.

### No, the Electoral College Is Not a 'Shadow of Slavery's Power'

New York's newest congresswoman, Democrat Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, has been quick to jump onto this bandwagon, recently labeling the Electoral College a "shadow of slavery's power on America." Mere hours into the new Congress, a bill was introduced to eliminate this "outdated" system. Such a view of the Electoral College's roots threatens to become conventional wisdom, but nothing could be further from the truth. The discussions at the Constitutional Convention were shaped more by the delegates' study of history and political philosophy, as well as their own experiences with Parliament and the state legislatures. They wanted to avoid the mistakes that had been made in other governments. They sought to establish a better constitution that would stand the test of time.

## STATES

### Colorado: State Senator Accuses New Secretary of State of 'Partisanship'

State Sen. Jerry Sonnenberg, R-Sterling, and one of his Republican colleagues on the Senate State, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee have criticized incoming Democratic Secretary of State Jena Griswold for appointing "campaign operatives and special interests" to her senior team. In an email statement sent out Wednesday morning, Sonnenberg said Griswold's staff appointments show the new state secretary wants to "prioritize politics" in her new job. "Jena Griswold has sent a strong signal that, as Secretary of State, she's going to prioritize politics over free and fair elections," the senator said. "The people of Colorado should be very worried that the independence of the office has already been sacrificed to Democratic political operatives. As her first act she's appointed Polis and Kennedy campaign operatives fresh from the campaign trail. Her judgment here is deeply concerning."

**Florida: Judge: Rick Scott Overstepped When He Suspended Broward's Embattled Elections Chief**

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In a Wednesday evening order, U.S. District Court Judge Mark Walker found that Rick Scott exceeded his authority when, on the heels of a controversial election recount, he suspended Brenda Snipes from office. Due to the timing of her removal and her plans to resign in early January, Snipes was left without the ability to challenge her ouster or contest the allegations contained in Scott's executive order. Walker declined to reinstate Snipes, a 15-year veteran of the elections department, which she had sought in the form of a preliminary injunction. He also agreed that the Florida Senate was right to deny her a hearing that by law is typically afforded politicians who seek to challenge a suspension by the governor. But he did order Scott's successor, the newly elected Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, to issue a new order by the end of the month explaining the reasons for Snipes' suspension, and demand that Snipes be granted a special hearing before the governor no later than March 31.

### **Georgia: Changes May Be Ahead for Georgia Election System**

Georgia's election system has drawn criticism from cybersecurity experts and voting integrity advocates, and now a commission tasked with examining potential replacements is preparing to make recommendations to lawmakers. The paperless system was closely scrutinized during last year's nationally watched gubernatorial race between Democrat Stacey Abrams and Republican Brian Kemp, who was Georgia's secretary of state and chief elections official. Whatever they decide, the timeline is tight. Commission members seemed to agree they'd like to have a trial run during the November 2019 municipal elections and implement a new system statewide for the 2020 election cycle.

### **Illinois: Dorothy Brown Alleges Fraud in Her Fight to Get on Chicago Mayoral Ballot**

Mayoral candidate Dorothy Brown on Thursday said she's being targeted with election fraud in her fight to get on the mayoral ballot, and she called for an investigation into what she said was an inexplicable sudden reversal in her fortunes. Facing what Chicago Board of Election Commissioners spokesman James Allen called "a very steep climb" to prove she has the 12,500 signatures of registered voters required to get on the Feb. 26 ballot, Brown held a news conference to argue that thousands of the names she submitted were suddenly and mysteriously ruled invalid after having earlier been deemed valid.

### **Iowa: Voter IDs Required at Polls in 2019**

Jasper County Auditor Dennis Parrott says county election officials will be ready for changes to Iowa's voting laws in 2019 when the next round of countywide elections hit in November, the first after the state's new voter ID law fully goes into effect. Voter ID, officially called the Election Modernization and Integrity Act, is being fully-enforced as of Jan. 1. The law now requires Iowa voters to show a valid, state-issued voter or approved government ID at the polls to cast a ballot.

### **Iowa: Iowa City Man Faces Voter Misconduct Charge**

An Iowa City man was arrested Monday following an investigation into possible suspicious voter activity. According to the criminal complaint, the Johnson County Sheriff's Office was contacted in October by the Johnson County Auditor's Office regarding suspicious voter registration activity by Joseph P. Hentzel, 40. The complaint said investigators determined Hentzel provided a false residential address on an absentee ballot request form on Sept. 26.

### **North Carolina: NC Election Violations Alleged in 2016 Were Aired with Justice Department Official**

The head of the Justice Department's Public Integrity Section met with staff from the North Carolina state board of elections about allegedly improper election activities in Bladen County that occurred during the 2016 elections, according to emails obtained by The News & Observer. Republicans and Democrats have lamented the fact that nothing was done despite years of allegations and investigations, all leading to the current mess.

### **Virginia: Virginia Threatened with Lawsuit over Non-Citizen Voter Roll Maintenance**

The Virginia Department of Elections is being threatened with litigation over its procedures to remove non-citizens from voter rolls by an election integrity group that says the state's procedure is resulting in the wrongful removal of eligible citizens from its registrations. The Public Interest Legal Foundation (PILF), a group that litigates to protect election integrity, sent a notice to the Virginia Department of Elections on Dec. 12 warning that it could face a lawsuit unless it corrects its voter roll maintenance procedures. The PILF released a report in 2017 that detailed how state election officials removed 5,556 noncitizen

voters from rolls between 2011 and 2017. Of the 5,556 noncitizens removed, 1,852 cast a total of 7,474 ballots in elections.

### **Virginia: Democratic Governor Working to Repeal Voter ID Law, Remove Absentee Voting Rules**

Virginia Democratic Gov. Ralph Northam announced earlier this week that he is backing legislation that would repeal voter photo identification requirements and institute “no-excuse” absentee voting. The move fits part of a wider nationwide push by Democrats to liberalize voting laws under the banner of increasing voter access. Northam’s legislative package also includes proposed changes in campaign finance laws that would ban corporate contributions and set a limit to the amount that individuals can give to a candidate, according to a news release from the governor’s office

### **REDISTRICTING**

#### **Ohio: Attorney General Files Motion to Toss Redistricting Lawsuit**

Ohio Gov.-elect Mike DeWine in his current role as the state's attorney general has filed a motion seeking dismissal of a lawsuit attempting to force Ohio to redraw its 16 congressional districts in time for the 2020 election. The lawsuit is scheduled for trial in March before a three-judge federal panel.

Cleveland.com reports the Ohio League of Women Voters and others who are suing for the redrawing of districts argue Ohio's congressional map violates voters' constitutional rights by "entrenching partisan advantage." They say the current map has resulted in 12 predictably Republican districts and four predictably Democratic districts. The judges rejected an earlier attempt in August to dismiss the lawsuit. DeWine's motion filed this week argues among other things that plaintiffs lack standing and are unable to prove harm.

#### **Virginia: After Lengthy Hearing, Judges Redrawing Virginia House Map Have Lots of Options but Not Much Time**

The three federal judges who could reshape the landscape for Virginia’s 2019 House of Delegates races considered lots of proposed election maps Thursday but said they wouldn’t decide on a way forward for at least a few weeks. After five hours of arguments and testimony in a Richmond courtroom in a long-running racial gerrymandering case, the judges told their hired expert that they want him to resubmit his proposed House maps as a final document with typos fixed, corrections made, and new information added. “We will need a report that straightens everything out,” said U.S. District Judge Robert Payne, who oversaw Thursday’s proceedings.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 30, 2018 9:30 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: John Fund Rebuts Media Claims of 'No Voter Fraud'; Report Finds 1400 Non-Citizens were on Detroit Voter Rolls  
Texas 'Voter Fraud Ring' Broken Up

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[Fox News contributor John Fund](#) disputes the mainstream media claims of no voter fraud. Officials in Colorado [point the finger](#) at each other over 60,000 missing ballots. A [new report](#) finds [1,400 non-citizens registered to vote](#) in the Detroit region, one of the highest ever discovered. The Texas Attorney General breaks up a ["voter fraud ring"](#) in Fort Worth and an undocumented alien in Bexar County [is indicted](#) for voting over past 20 years. And there is more in this week's [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).

## LEAD

### Fox News: Voter Fraud Exists – Even Though Many in the Media Claim It Doesn't

President Trump warned on Twitter last week that law enforcement would be looking for "voter fraud" in the midterm elections. Many journalists quickly responded – as they always do – by dismissing the very existence of voter fraud. Journalists have credulously repeated unsupported, patronizing claims that in Georgia and other states, voter registration and absentee ballot laws somehow suppress minority votes. David Wasserman of the Cook Political Report said there are "valid concerns about the restrictive impact of new voting laws and voters improperly removed from rolls, but there's also a lot of outrage-stoking and sloppy journalism in this realm that are counterproductive to fixing real problems."

## FEDERAL

### Daily Signal: Voter Fraud Undermines the Votes of Black Americans

We often hear people complain that their votes don't count, and recent election results have many questioning our voting process. Indeed, without effective safeguards, the civil rights movement's goal of making everybody's vote count may never be achieved. Poor and minority communities are particularly at risk because they are frequent victims of voter fraud.

### The Hill: Judge Denies Government's Request to Delay Trial on Census Citizenship Question

A federal district court judge on Friday denied the Trump administration's request to postpone a trial addressing lawsuits that challenge the government's decision to add a citizenship question to the 2020 census.

### Washington Journal: John Fund and Kristen Clarke on Voting Rights and Campaign 2018

National Review columnist John Fund and Kristen Clarke of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law discussed allegations of voter suppression in the 2018 midterm elections.

## STATES

### California: San Francisco Spends \$300,000 to Register Noncitizen Voters — A Whopping 49 Sign Up

San Francisco's effort to get noncitizen parents to the ballot box is pretty much a bust the first time out, with only 49 signing up to vote in the Nov. 6 election. The program is the first-of-its-kind in California and followed passage of a 2016 San Francisco ballot measure opening school elections to noncitizens who are over the age of 18, city residents and have children under age 19. The tally to register noncitizen voters comes to about \$6,326 per sign up.

### Colorado: Website that Alleges Voters Have Been Purged from Voter Rolls is Inaccurate, Says Secretary of State's Office

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000167

The biggest problem with any election is misinformation, according to the Secretary of State's office, which is now dealing with complaints about a website that alleges Colorado voters have been purged from the voter registration rolls.

### **Colorado: Officials Point Fingers at Each Other after 60,000 Adams County Ballots Go Missing**

The 61,000 voters in Adams County who've been waiting on ballots in the mail are waiting no more: the post office said they've been delivered. Though it's still unclear who should be held accountable for them going missing in the first place. State and local election officials traded blame with the United States Postal Service on Wednesday as they investigated how an entire truckload of ballots went unaccounted for between Oct. 15 and Oct. 22.

### **Maryland: State Constitutional Amendment Would Allow Voters to Register on Election Day**

Right now, Marylanders can register to vote during early voting, but not on Election Day. Del. Kirill Reznik wants to change that. He sponsored successful legislation proposing a constitutional amendment that could allow voters to register at polling places on Election Day. The amendment goes before general election voters.

### **Michigan: At Least 1,400 Noncitizens Registered to Vote in Detroit Area, Says Report**

At least 1,400 noncitizens, who registered to vote in the Detroit metropolitan area, were removed from the voter rolls since 2011, according to a new report. From the 1,400, 822 noncitizens resided in Detroit proper, a figure which the Public Interest Legal Foundation called "among the highest" they ever saw from a single jurisdiction nationwide.

### **Missouri: Missouri Secretary of State Lashes Out at Judge Who Gutted Voter ID Law Requirement**

Missouri Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft late Tuesday lashed out at a judge who struck down key portions of the state's voter ID law. Earlier this month, Cole County Circuit Court Judge Richard Callahan tossed out a requirement for voters who don't present a photo ID to sign an affidavit in order to cast a regular ballot in elections. Ashcroft said Callahan's latest move guts Missouri's photo ID law as crafted by the state Legislature.

### **New Hampshire: Supreme Court Sides With State in SB 3 (Student Residency) Case**

A week of contention and confusion regarding the state's SB 3 voter registration law culminated with the New Hampshire Supreme Court issuing a 5-0 decision against the Democratic Party and the League of Women Voters. That means the requirements of SB 3 will be in place for the Nov. 6 general election. State House Majority Whip. Rep. Kathleen Hoelzel, R-Raymond, also hailed the ruling. "I'm glad the Supreme Court has resolved this matter for the time being, however, the lower court's order and the publicity it has caused has now created questions in the minds of the public," she said.

### **North Carolina: Lieutenant Governor Appears in Voter Fraud Video**

Amid a push to pass a photo ID requirement for North Carolina elections, the state's lieutenant governor appears in a video that offers instructions on how to commit voter fraud in the state. The video, posted on Facebook, features Lt. Gov. Dan Forest telling how a group could collect the identifying information of infrequent voters before Election Day and then impersonate those voters at the polls, which is a crime under state law.

### **Texas: Undocumented Immigrant Voted in Bexar County for More than 20 Years**

An undocumented Mexican immigrant who lived for years in a rural San Antonio suburb pleaded guilty Thursday to charges of fraud and identity theft, admitting he used a stolen identity to vote in several elections. Enrique Salazar Ortiz, 63, would not tell federal agents how many times he had voted using the name of former San Antonio resident Jesse H. Vargas Jr., but Salazar did admit casting a ballot in the 2016 general election, according to the plea agreement. But Bexar County records show a man with Vargas' name and date of birth voted in every general election for the past 24 years, county elections administrator Jacque Callanen said Thursday. "He's been voting since at least 1994," Callanen said. "Vargas" also voted in the 2008 Democratic primary, she said.

### **Texas: Democratic Party Leader Funded 'Voter Fraud Ring,' Says Texas Attorney General**

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000168

A North Texas woman recently indicted as part of a “voter fraud ring” paid the others involved in the scheme with funds provided by a Democratic Party leader, say court documents filed by the Office of Attorney General Ken Paxton this week. Leticia Sanchez was charged with 17 felony counts of voter fraud following an investigation by Paxton’s office. Sanchez, 57, allegedly paid her co-defendants to target elderly voters in select northern Fort Worth precincts in the 2016 March Democrat Party primary election to affect the outcome of certain down-ballot candidate races.

#### **Texas: Dallas Republicans Questioning Mail-In Ballot Verification Process**

The Dallas County Republican Party is raising concerns about dozens if not hundreds of current mail-in ballots, alleging that the Dallas County Elections Department is not letting a bi-partisan team of election watchers fully do their jobs.

#### **Texas: Documents Show More People Connected to Vote Harvesting Scheme in Tarrant County**

Court documents filed in this week name more people the State of Texas says were connected to a vote harvesting scheme in Tarrant County. The state indicted four women this month who prosecutors said were requesting mail-in ballots and filling them out for the Democratic Party. New documents say Leticia Sanchez was receiving money to pay the other women for votes they collected.

### **REDISTRICTING**

#### **AP: Conservative Fund Spends \$1.2M Against Redistricting Measure**

A conservative group is spending at least \$1.2 million to oppose Proposal 2, the Michigan ballot initiative aimed at stopping partisan gerrymandering. Protect My Vote will unveil TV ads Wednesday that are running for two weeks through Election Day. The opposition committee received the \$1.2 million contribution this week from the Michigan Freedom Fund, which has had ties to the wealthy DeVos family. Voters Not Politicians, the group behind the measure, already has been airing ads.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 16, 2019 6:01 PM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: Leftists to spend \$275 million to skew 2020 election; and Democrat-controlled states race to upend the fundamental structure of our election process

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Leftists to [spend \\$275 million to skew 2020 election](#); and Democrat-controlled states race to [upend the fundamental structure](#) of our election process; while Project Veritas documents [admissions of vote fraudsters](#) in New Hampshire. Not-so-Georgian representative [tricked into admitting](#) true home state; and are *Sister-Wives* [committing vote fraud in Arizona](#)? Ohio looking to [prevent future vote-count-interruptus](#); while [Tennessee heads to criminalize](#) mischief-making by voter groups. [These stories and more](#) ...

## LEAD

### UNDERCOVER EXPOSÉ: New Project Veritas Video Shows Shocking Extent of Voter Fraud During 2018 Midterms

Undercover footage released by Project Veritas last week highlights the disturbing impact of voter fraud on the 2018 midterm elections, with new video showing New Hampshire residents admitting they cast their ballot multiple times in different states. "Robert Bell, an Atkinson, New Hampshire resident, cast an early voting ballot in Florida and voted in person at the polls in New Hampshire. This is the third video in a series Project Veritas has released exposing the faces of voter fraud," writes Project Veritas.

## FEDERAL

### Free Beacon: Secretive Liberal Donor Club Plots \$275 Million Spending Plan for 2020

A secretive group of top liberal donors has budgeted \$275 million to be injected into progressive infrastructure leading up to the 2020 elections, confidential documents obtained by the *Washington Free Beacon* show. The Democracy Alliance, which has been pivotal in helping bankroll left-wing causes and organizations since its founding in 2005, held its annual Spring conference at the ritzy Four Seasons Hotel in Austin, Texas, last week. Members and liberal groups mapped out their goals of expanding and strengthening the progressive political base, building and supporting progressive governance at every level, and restoring and expanding structural power. The new money to the victory fund will be used to amplify the "harm" that the "Trump administration and conservatives have caused in Americans' lives," engaging in year-round organizing, resourcing state-based campaigns to expand access to the ballot, and resourcing efforts in 2019 in Wisconsin and Virginia to win judicial and legislative seats needed to control redistricting, ballot access, and pass progressive policy.

### Washington Times: National Popular Vote Catches Fire in Blue States as Democrats Seek to Upend Electoral College

After seven failed attempts in 12 years, the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact suddenly caught fire this year in Oregon, finally winning passage in the Democrat-controlled state Senate. Still furious about Mr. Trump's 2016 victory despite his loss of the popular vote, Democrats have sought to prevent [that] from ever happening again by embracing the effort to upend the Electoral College. Once viewed as a quixotic quest, the National Popular Vote now has the support of 15 states with a combined 189 electoral votes, bringing the campaign closer to the 270 electoral votes required for the agreement to take effect. Credit for this year's success goes to the "Trump bump," as well as the November blue wave that saw Democrats pull off the trifecta — control of the governor's office as well as both state legislative chambers — in an additional six states, according to Ballotpedia. Democratic governors in three states — Colorado, Delaware and New Mexico — have signed bills this year to join the compact, meaning that they agree to cast their Electoral College votes for the presidential candidate who wins the popular vote, instead of the candidate supported by state voters.

### National Review: Bernie Sanders Is Wrong: Felons Shouldn't Vote from Prison

Giving criminals more of a say in elections is morally wrong — and a political disaster for Republicans to



boot. Democrats used to argue that once felons had served their time, they had paid their debt to society and should be able to vote. Now, top-tier presidential candidate Bernie Sanders wants felons to never lose their right to vote, not even while they're in prison. For both parties, this is not only a moral issue but also a political one. The push to enfranchise felons started after George W. Bush narrowly edged out Al Gore by 537 votes in the 2000 Florida presidential election. While felons weren't legally able to vote in that election, thousands still cast their ballots. It was clear that felon votes could make a decisive difference, and Democrats took notice.

## **STATE**

### **Arizona: Voter Fraud Alleged in Arizona Town Home to Polygamous Sect**

An Arizona county attorney wants to investigate unspecified allegations of voter fraud during last year's municipal elections in a rural community on the Arizona-Utah border that is home to the Fundamentalist Church of Latter-Day Saints (FLDS). Mohave County Attorney Matt Smith is requesting \$8,000 in county funds to hire an investigator to look into the allegations, the Today's News-Herald in Lake Havasu City reports. Smith declined to provide specifics about the allegations but said he'll share more when he goes before the county Board of Supervisors to seek approval for the funds at a meeting on Monday.

### **Georgia: GOP Trolls 'Georgia' Dem Over Residency Claims, Gets Her to Accept Gift Basket at 'Real Home' in Tennessee**

Georgia Democratic Rep. Lucy McBath was the target of some creative trolling by the Republican Party over her widely disputed claim that she actually lives in Georgia, after receiving and signing for a gift basket the GOP sent to her address -- in Tennessee. McBath, a racial justice activist who defeated Republican incumbent Karen Handel in November, has been dogged with questions since the election campaign on whether she actually lives in the state she now represents. The state's Cobb County Tax Commissioner's Office, which refrained from issuing a decision during the election due to appeals, confirmed last month that McBath didn't meet the requirements to call her Cobb County home her primary residence for the three tax years leading up to the election, meaning she was a Tennessee resident when she was elected to Congress.

### **Indiana: Bill to Extend Absentee Ballot Deadline on Its Way to Governor's Desk**

House lawmakers sat divided Wednesday when the majority party backed a bill to change absentee mail-in ballot deadlines, clearing its final hurdle before heading to the governor. In a 65-31 vote led by House Republicans. The main goal of HB 1311 is to move the deadline for absentee mail-in ballots from eight to 12 days before an election. After it passed the Senate in a 37-9 vote, lawmakers asked to adjust the bill's effective date to July 1, 2019, several months ahead of the original start date of Jan. 1, 2020. Bill author Thomas Saunders, R-Lewisville, explained that he drafted the measure in response to complaints from county clerks that arose after the 2018 general election, namely that their offices needed more time to receive and process absentee ballots before election day. Without additional time, Saunders and the clerks have said, ballots might be lost in the process or be received too late.

### **Ohio: State to Monitor Miami County Elections Board After Votes Went Uncounted**

Human error was to blame for thousands of Miami County votes going uncounted during last fall's midterm elections, an investigation by the Ohio Secretary of State's office has revealed. State officials say they'll closely monitor the county's Board of Elections this election season. The state's investigation found more than 6,000 early votes went uncounted last fall because board staff members shut down voting machines improperly. Miami County elections officials later tallied the votes after the error was discovered. Secretary of State Frank LaRose says the mishap didn't affect election outcomes. The director of Miami County's Board of Elections was fired after the error was found.

### **Ohio: State's Mandated Mailing Results in Updated Voter Rolls**

Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose's mailing to thousands of voters recently purged from the rolls under a controversial state law prompted a scant 540 people to re-register to vote. With printing and postage costs of \$130,512, that's about \$242 per voter registration. LaRose's office had no comment on whether the cost to re-register the 540 voters removed from the rolls was worthwhile. In March, the secretary of state's office sent letters and voter-registration forms to 264,516 former voters who had failed to respond to last-chance postcards sent by their county boards of elections in January. Registration forms

had to be returned by Monday to be eligible to vote in the May primary election.

### **Tennessee: Bill Provides Penalties for Incomplete and Incorrect Voter Registrations**

A Tennessee Senate panel on Tuesday advanced a bill that could subject some large groups involved in voter registration efforts to civil and possibly even criminal charges as well as fines if they submit too many incomplete or incorrect registrations. The GOP-led Senate Judiciary Committee approved the bill on a 7-2 vote, despite concerns raised by the League of Women Voters. Sen. Todd Gardenhire, R-Chattanooga, voted for the bill. Secretary of State Tre Hargett, a Republican, and his election coordinator, Mark Goins, brought the bill in response to problems they say erupted in 2018 fall elections in Davidson and Shelby counties and, to a lesser extent, in a number of other counties. Goins said county election officials were deluged with tens of thousands of last-minute voter registration applications, including a large number of incomplete forms or forms containing wrong or false information. He's calling the bill an "election security" measure.

### **REDISTRICTING**

#### **Mississippi: State Requests New Hearing in Redistricting Lawsuit**

Two Republicans in Mississippi took steps Monday to block the court-ordered redrawing of a state Senate district that could increase black representation at the state Capitol. Attorneys for Gov. Phil Bryant and Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann filed papers asking the entire 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to hear arguments in a redistricting lawsuit filed by black plaintiffs. The lawsuit challenges Senate District 22, which stretches from mostly black and poor parts of the rural Delta into mostly white and affluent suburbs outside Jackson. The district has a 51% black voting age population and a white Republican senator.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 09, 2018 2:30 PM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: Litigation Continues Over Census Bureau Asking Citizenship Question; More Attacks on the Electoral College; California Governor Brown Vetoes Non-Citizen Voting Legislation

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In ongoing litigation over whether the Census may ask for citizenship status, [Justice Ginsburg](#) is leaving the door open for the Trump administration to ask the Supreme Court for a permanent block from questioning two key officials. A [new Rasmussen poll](#) shows voters want voter ID at the polls, and there is [similar support in North Carolina](#) for a voter ID amendment. Socialist Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez calls for [abolishing the Electoral College](#) because it is a “shadow of slavery’s power.” And in a surprise, California Governor [Jerry Brown vetoed a bill](#) that would granted non-citizens voting rights. Get the details in this edition of the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).

## LEAD

### Justice Ginsburg Stops Effort to Block Officials' Census Lawsuit Depositions, For Now

This week, the Trump administration moved the legal fight over its plan to add a question about citizenship status to the 2020 census to the U.S. Supreme Court. Justice Ginsburg denied the administration's request for the Supreme Court to temporarily block lower court-ordered document requests and depositions of two key Trump administration officials behind the question: Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross and Justice Department official John Gore. She left the door open, however, for the administration to come back and ask the high court to permanently block plaintiff's attorneys from questioning Ross and Gore under oath.

## FEDERAL

### Rasmussen: Voters Want IDs at the Polls, Don't See Them as Discriminatory

A new Rasmussen Reports national telephone and online survey finds that 67% of Likely U.S. Voters think voters should be required to show photo identification such as a driver's license before being allowed to vote. This is down slightly from 70% a year ago but down from a high of 82% in 2010. Support for voter ID requirements has mostly run in the mid-to-high 70s in surveys since 2006. Twenty-eight percent (28%) do not want voter ID laws, up slightly from earlier surveys.

### Breitbart: Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez Calls for Abolishing Electoral College: 'Shadow of Slavery's Power'

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, the Democrat Party's rising socialist star running to represent New York's 14th District in Congress, called for the electoral college to be abolished on Saturday, moments after then-Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh was confirmed by the Senate. Ocasio-Cortez, tweeted her support for the process to be eliminated. “It is well past time we eliminate the Electoral College, a shadow of slavery’s power on America today that undermines our nation as a democratic republic,” she tweeted.

## STATES

### Alaska: Over a Month Later, No Answers on Alleged Primary Voter Fraud

It's been just over a month since the Alaska Division of Elections reported potential voter fraud in the state's primary – and still, no answers from the Alaska Department of Law on whether it's investigating. In the East Anchorage House District 15 race, people who were legally dead requested ballots and large numbers of votes were cast from single homes in the same trailer court.

### California: California Gov. Jerry Brown Vetoes Bill to Give Non-Citizens Voting Rights

On Thursday, California Gov. Jerry Brown vetoed two bills that would have granted non-citizens extraordinary rights within the state. One proposal would have allowed non-citizens, including

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undocumented immigrants, to serve on state boards and commissions.

### **Kentucky: Attorney General Beshear Appoints Independent Counsel to Investigate Allegations against Secretary of State Grimes**

Attorney General Andy Beshear has appointed an independent counsel to examine allegations against Secretary of State Alison Lundergan Grimes, including that her office misused voter data and potentially violated Kentucky's personnel laws. Among those allegations are claims that Grimes' staff used the voter registration database to look up the party affiliation of merit staffers while they were applying for a job at the state board of elections and to look up the party affiliations of current state board of elections staff.

### **Nebraska: Stark differences on voter ID split secretary of state candidates**

After 18 years in office, John Gale said he will not pursue another term as Nebraska's secretary of state, elevating the campaign to fill the vacancy of the statewide position. Bob Evnen, a Republican from Lincoln, and Spencer Danner, a Democrat from Omaha, hope to replace Gale as the state's chief election officer, ambassador and record-keeper. Evnen, 65, supports requiring voters to show identification before they cast a ballot, a Republican-backed proposal that has been introduced and defeated in several recent legislative sessions.

### **Nevada: Nevada Sets Registered Voter record, Nonpartisan Voters Reach All-Time High**

The November 2018 midterm election is around the corner and the key battleground state of Nevada has just set a new record for registered voters. The Nevada Secretary of State's Office is reporting 25,041 people registered in September, bringing the statewide total to 1,519,082 voters.

### **North Carolina: Debate focuses on voter ID amendment**

A proposed constitutional amendment requiring a photo ID to vote has sparked significant controversy in state politics. The amendment, which will appear on the November ballot, represents a second attempt at enacting photo ID rules for state voters. Civitas Institute polling finds North Carolina voters appear to broadly support requiring a photo ID to vote.

### **North Dakota: North Dakota Officials Tell Tribes of Election, Voter ID Requirements**

North Dakota is going ahead with requiring residents to provide a street address in order to vote on Election Day, even though some American Indian tribes have argued in federal court that they sometimes aren't assigned on reservations. Secretary of State Al Jaeger's office notified the state's five tribes by email late Friday of North Dakota voter ID requirements.

### **Texas: Roma Woman Arrested on Voter Fraud Charges**

A Roma woman was arrested Thursday evening on multiple voter fraud charges relating to the November 2018 general election, confirmed 229th District Attorney Omar Escobar. Modesta Vela, 60, was arrested by investigators with the 229th District Attorney's Office on felony charges of illegal voting, knowingly possessing a ballot or ballot envelope of another person with the intent to defraud, and election fraud, in addition to a misdemeanor unlawful assistance of a voter charge.

### **Vermont: Montpelier Puts Noncitizen Voting on Ballot; Winooski Delays Action on Measure**

Montpelier citizens will be going to the polls on noncitizen voting in November while Winooski city leaders have hit the brakes — for now.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Maryland: Court suggests settlement talks in congressional redistricting case**

A federal court on Thursday suggested settlement discussions be pursued in a case in which Republican voters in Maryland's 6th Congressional District want to toss out a map they say was unfairly crafted to benefit Democrats. The three-judge panel made the recommendation during a hearing on the case.

### **Virginia: Va. GOP leader Cancels Vote on Redistricting Plan, Accuses Governor of Partisan Obstruction**

Virginia House Speaker Kirk Cox has canceled the legislative session he had set for Oct. 21 to take up a state redistricting plan, citing Gov. Ralph Northam's opposition. Without action by the General Assembly, the court will redraw the boundaries itself.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2019 9:41 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: Nancy Pelosi wants "to capture" kids by registering them to vote; Hillary Clinton gets facts wrong

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Nancy Pelosi wants ["to capture" kids by registering them to vote](#); [Hillary Clinton gets facts wrong](#) – again; and House Democrats want [California's disastrous automatic registration to be model](#) for rest of nation. Some hopeful signs -- [citizenship measure on Florida 2020 ballot?](#) FBI investigating [vote fraud in New Jersey](#); [North Carolina wants tighter rules on absentee voting](#); and Wisconsin election commission [looks for and finds voter fraud](#). Supreme Court to decide [fate of redistricting](#) – hearing oral arguments on March 26th. [And more ...](#)

## LEAD

### Nancy Pelosi Backs 16-year-olds Voting: 'Capture Kids When They're in High School'

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) said Thursday that the voting age should be lowered to 16 years old, telling reporters on Capitol Hill, "I think it's really important to capture kids when they are in high school when they are interested in all of this, when they are learning about government, to be able to vote." As *USA Today* noted, the House actually defeated an amendment to the bill by Rep. Ayanna Pressley (D-MA) that would have lowered the age for voting to 16 in federal elections. The vote was 305-126 against the idea.

## FEDERAL

### Breitbart: Kobach: If You Wanted to Pass a Law to Encourage Voter Fraud

On March 8, on a party line vote, Nancy Pelosi's Democrats in the House of Representatives passed H.R. 1, dubbed the "For the People Act of 2019." It is a massive federal intrusion into the states' constitutionally-protected realm of regulating and maintaining voter rolls. It's also a recipe for voter fraud. Republicans in the House correctly derided it as a "voter fraud and election theft" bill. But that understates how bad it is. H.R. 1 rolls out the red carpet for election fraud.

### Fact Check: Fact-Checking Clinton's Voter Suppression Claims

In remarks in Alabama, Hillary Clinton took aim at state laws that she said disenfranchise minority voters. But she went too far in a couple of instances when discussing the impact of Wisconsin and Georgia laws in the 2016 election, when she ran for president: Clinton said the "best studies" show that "somewhere between 40[000] and 80,000 people were turned away from the polls" in Wisconsin because of the state's voter ID law. Clinton falsely claimed that "there were fewer voters registered in Georgia [in 2016] than then there had been those prior four years" in 2012. In fact, there were nearly 571,000 more registered voters in the 2016 election, state records show. We went to the Georgia Secretary of State's website for registration data, and we found that she was wrong.

### Daily Signal: America Doesn't Need Automatic Voter Registration. Just Look to California.

Lawmakers on Capitol Hill have held up California's new, error-plagued automatic voter registration program as a model for the nation and are now pushing for a nationalized version of the program in a bill called the For the People Act. The bill would require all states to implement automatic voter registration systems, which advocates claim would improve the accuracy of voter registration rolls, prevent ineligible people from registering, help election officials do less work to keep voter registration records accurate, and make it easier for eligible voters to register or update their registration records. Yet since California started its own automatic voter registration program last April, exactly the opposite has happened. California enacted its law back in 2015 and officially launched the voter registration system in April 2018. That three-year gap should have been plenty of time for state officials to develop a smooth rollout. Apparently, it was not.

## **Colorado: Gov. Polis Signs National Popular Vote Bill into Law**

Gov. Jared Polis signed the controversial national popular vote bill into law Friday. The new law requires Colorado electors to the Electoral College vote for the winner of the national popular vote for president and not the winner of the Colorado popular vote. The measure would only take effect if states with a total of 270 electoral votes agree to do the same. Currently, 11 states have joined the “interstate compact” authorizing the national popular vote.

## **Florida: Couple Leads Push for Voter Referendum that Targets Noncitizens Voting**

Gina Loudon has proudly proclaimed Donald Trump to possibly be the “most sound-minded” president in the nation’s history and boasted about spending time with him on Air Force One. She even once appeared as a “staunch tea party activist” on the television show “Wife Swap” to promote her conservative family values. Now, the West Palm Beach-based political commentator and her husband have a new mission — pushing a ballot initiative that would change the Florida Constitution to specify that “only a citizen” can vote. The couple’s recently formed group — Florida Citizen Voters — already has raised nearly \$2 million to fund the petition drive needed to get the question on the 2020 presidential ballot. That makes it the top fundraiser this year among Florida political committees so far.

## **Indiana: Secretary of State Calls for Porter County Officials to Be Fired after Election Mess**

In a scathing report on Porter County’s chaotic November general election, the Indiana Secretary of State noted toxic behavior and dysfunctional relationships created a wide swath of problems for voters and poll workers alike, placing the blame squarely on three people involved in election duties. “Porter County voters deserve better,” Secretary of State Connie Lawson said in a report on the election released Wednesday. Lawson blamed the problems on former Clerk Karen Martin; Democrat J.J. Stankiewicz, now president of the county election board; and Kathy Kozuszek, Democratic director in the Porter County Voter Registration Office. She called on Kozuszek and Stankiewicz to resign.

## **New Hampshire: Student Who Voted Twice in 2016 Was Told to by Town or Liberal Activist**

The lawyer for a University of New Hampshire student who pleaded guilty to voter fraud in the 2016 election said someone associated with either a town election official or activists with NextGen America had told the Massachusetts man he could cast a New Hampshire ballot. Attorney Scott Bratton of Lowell, Mass., said Spencer McKinnon, now 21, to this day remains foggy about who gave him that advice, which prompted him to vote in Durham on Nov. 8, 2016, after he had already sent in an absentee ballot in Dracut, Mass., where he lived. McKinnon told state investigators “an adult” led him astray on Oct. 26 upon signing up to be an eligible voter during a three-hour voter registration drive in a dining hall on the UNH campus. “Someone, an adult, told him that it would be OK for him to register to vote in Durham as long as he changed his address,” Bratton said.

## **New Jersey: FBI Questions Dover Officials About Undocumented Immigrants Voting, Sources Say**

Federal Bureau of Investigation agents are interviewing Dover Democratic leaders and volunteers today about local politics, including questions about undocumented immigrants voting in the 2018 primary election, two sources confirmed. FBI agents appeared at the homes and workplaces of several local officials this morning, the sources said. Among those questioned were supporters of Dover First, an insurgent group that won control of the local Democratic party last June and ousted three incumbent aldermen. One of the defeated incumbents, Ronald Camacho, alleged voter fraud after Carlos Valencia beat him in the primary by twelve votes.

## **North Carolina: After 9th District Fraud, Elections Officials Want Tighter Rules for Absentee Ballots...**

In the wake of fraud that has forced a new election in the 9th Congressional District, North Carolina elections officials called Wednesday for tighter rules on how mail-in absentee ballots are requested and submitted. The State Board of Elections ordered a new 9th District election last month after a four-day hearing turned up evidence that someone hired by Republican Mark Harris’ campaign was illegally collecting absentee ballots from Bladen County voters and, in some instances, even completing ballots where votes weren’t cast in some races. Kim Strach, state elections director, asked lawmakers for help to make such fraud more difficult and to punish offenders more severely. “We think it’s important that we send

strong messages, and by making those penalties tougher, we hopefully will deter people from actually engaging in these activities," Strach told members of the House Elections and Ethics Law Committee.

### **Texas: GOP Representatives Support Citizenship Census Question**

Lawmakers spent hours questioning Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross over why he approved the inclusion of a citizenship question on the 2020 Census. Ross appeared before the House Oversight and Reform Committee Thursday. Two Texans sit on that committee, both of them Republicans. Rep. Chip Roy represents the Austin area. During the hearing, he made impassioned remarks in support of asking people their citizenship status. "I want the question to be asked," he said. "I just want to know as a member of Congress, I'd like to know how many citizens we have in the United States of America and I'd like to know who's here who is not a citizen." Rep. Michael Cloud of Victoria, Texas also expressed support for a citizenship question on the Census. Cloud challenged the idea that including this question is unlawful, noting it's been asked numerous times as part of the American Community Survey. That survey is conducted each year and sent to about 3.5 million households, but the Census Bureau has not asked all households in the country about U.S. citizenship since 1950. The Supreme Court will hold a hearing on the question next month.

### **Wisconsin: Election Commission: Review Found 24 Suspected Voter Fraud Cases**

The Wisconsin Election Commission says its statewide review of elections in the past year have turned up two dozen cases of suspected voter fraud or irregularities. The State Journal says the violations reportedly include people voting twice in an election, felons casting ballots and a non-citizen voter. The possible cases are just a tiny fraction of the 2.7 million votes cast in the November midterm elections. Municipal clerks are required to report the cases to the commission and to their county's district attorneys who decide whether to pursue the suspected fraud. The cases of possible voter fraud happened between Feb. 16, 2018 and Feb. 15, 2019. The year before, seven potential voter fraud cases were found.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Maryland: Redistricting Case to Be Heard by U.S. Supreme Court**

The U.S. Supreme Court will hear oral arguments for two cases on congressional district gerrymandering on March 26, including one from Maryland, which could have far-reaching implications on how future electoral maps are drawn. The justices could, for the first time, issue a standard for determining unconstitutional partisan gerrymandering. At the heart of both the Maryland and North Carolina cases are accusations of redrawing district boundaries in order for one party to gain an advantage over the other in the states. At issue in the Maryland case, *Benisek v. Lamone*, is whether the state's 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District was gerrymandered by the Democratic-led state legislature in 2011 in order to flip that district blue.

### **Ohio: Congressional Map in Hands of Federal Judges**

The future of Ohio's congressional district map is in the hands of three federal judges. Testimony concluded Wednesday about a lawsuit charging that the GOP-controlled redistricting resulted in an unconstitutional partisan gerrymandering. After considering post-trial legal briefs from attorneys, Judges Timothy Black, Karen Nelson Moore and Michael Watson are expected to rule within weeks on a case that could potentially result in a change of the congressional map for 2020 elections.

### **Virginia: Redistricting Battle Takes Shape at High Court**

Beginning a two-week stretch in which gerrymandering returns to the high court, the justices of the Supreme Court will consider on Monday whether the Virginia Legislature improperly carved up its map to disadvantage black voters. This will be the second time the map Virginia lawmakers drew in 2011 comes to the Supreme Court, as the justices previously sent the case back to U.S. District court after finding the three-judge panel there that upheld the map used the wrong standard. Unlike with partisan gerrymandering, which the justices will consider later this month, the Supreme Court has developed a clear standard by which to judge claims of racial gerrymandering. Over a line of cases stretching back to the 1990s, the court has determined that a map is an unconstitutional racial gerrymander if race is the predominant factor on which it was drawn.

**The American Civil Rights Union**

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 04, 2018 8:08 AM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: NC Elections Board Chair Resigns Amid Mail Ballot Fraud Investigation; Former AG Holder Has A Target List - Did Your State Make It?

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Amid the [mail ballot fraud investigation](#) into the North Carolina District 9 race, the [State Elections Board Chair resigns](#) over anti-Trump tweets. After passage statewide, [North Carolina voter ID legislation](#) makes its way through the legislature. Florida Governor [Scott suspends Broward's Brenda Snipes](#), appoints a replacement, and then [she rescinds](#) her prior resignation. [Eric Holder announces](#) his redistricting state targets for 2020, and [MI](#), [NJ](#) and [VA](#) make redistricting news. Read all about it in [this week's EIB](#).

## LEAD

### North Carolina: Amid Investigation, N.C. Elections Board Chairman Resigns after Anti-Trump Tweets

The chairman of North Carolina's elections board has resigned following complaints about comments he's made online criticizing President Donald Trump. Andy Penry resigned Saturday from the State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement. The Democrat said he was leaving the board because he did not want to undermine an ongoing probe of potential wrongdoing in the state's 9th Congressional District. Wake County GOP Chairman Charles Hellwig filed a complaint Wednesday and provided images of what appear to be tweets from Penry's account this year criticizing Trump and a proposed constitutional amendment.

## FEDERAL

### EAC Finally Nearing Ability to Take Major Action

Congress will move closer to giving the Election Assistance Commission a full quorum of members today, when the Senate Rules Committee holds a confirmation hearing for President Donald Trump's two EAC nominees, Donald Palmer and Benjamin Hovland. The tiny federal agency, which plays a key role in mediating conversations between state election officials and federal agencies like DHS, currently only has two members, and it needs three to vote on major policy decisions. It has lacked a quorum since March 23, when Matt Masterson, its former chairman, left following the expiration of his term and joined DHS. That lack of a quorum has threatened progress on a major EAC priority, the 2.0 update to its Voluntary Voting System Guidelines, which many states adopt as their voting system regulations.

### Breitbart: Dem Rep.-Elect Hill: We're 'Prioritizing' Voting and Campaign Finance Legislation

Representative-elect Katie Hill (D-CA) touted H.R. 1, legislation that pertains to campaign finance, the Voting Rights Act, gerrymandering, and automatic voter registration. "Hello, my name is Katie Hill, the member-elect from California's 25th Congressional District. Under the Democratic Majority, H.R. 1 of the 116th Congress will be a bill that focuses on giving power back to people, not corporations or special interests. It will establish automatic voter registration, strengthen the Voting Rights Act and put an end to partisan gerrymandering. H.R. 1 also works to limit undue influence of big money by mandating more transparency and disclosure of political donations, fighting back against *Citizens United*, and creating a new 21st-century campaign finance system that empowers ordinary Americans.

### Washington Times: Bipartisan Senate Bill Would Strengthen Election Security with U.S. Allies

A pair of senators introduced bipartisan legislation aimed at easing the State Department's ability to share election security information with allies to combat disinformation campaigns, tackle voter fraud and thwart database hacks. Proposed by Sen. Dan Sullivan, Alaska Republican, and Sen. Amy Klobuchar, Minnesota Democrat, the Global Electoral Exchange Act would set up exchange programs between the U.S. and overseas partners to promote best practices among election officials to strengthen democracy around the world. The bill also authorizes State Department officials to provide grants to U.S. nonprofit organizations that specialize in election security to work with similar overseas organizations to protect their democracies

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from threats posed by countries like Russia and Iran.

## STATES

### **Alaska: Alaska House Control Flips to GOP by One Vote After Recount**

It appears that the Republican candidate for House District 1 has won a recount by one vote, securing a narrow majority in the house for the Republican Party. The Division of Elections announced that a bipartisan State Review Board had certified the results as of Friday afternoon. Candidate Barton LeBon received 2,663 votes while candidate Kathryn Dodge received 2,662 votes after the recount. The seat hinged on ballots that had either been spoiled or rejected. "During the review, election officials identified a ballot that had been initially rejected based on the voter's registration. The voter in question was a felon who had been off of probation since 2017," reads the release from the Division of Elections. "Per state law, felons no longer in probation status can have their voting rights reinstated. Following the division's research of the voter's eligibility, it was determined that their ballot should count, which was marked for LeBon."

### **California: What is 'Ballot Harvesting,' and How Did California Dems Use It to Nuke the GOP?**

The stunning turnaround in California, of all states, can be attributed to several factors, as conservative critics like The Federalist's Bre Payton wrote, but the most significant of those seemed to be the practice of "ballot harvesting." Passed as a barely noticed change in the state's vote by mail procedures in 2016 and signed by then-Governor Jerry Brown, California's AB 1921 allows voters to give any third party — not just a relative or someone living in the same household, as was previously the law — to collect and turn in anyone else's completed ballot. Called "ballot harvesting," critics say the practice is ripe for fraud. Consider "Lulu," who was recorded trying to "harvest" what she thought was a Democratic voter's ballot in Rep. Knight's district. It's a "new service," said Lulu, for "like, people who are supporting the Democratic party." The San Francisco Chronicle reported that 250,000 such ballots were used in Orange County alone, resulting in a Democratic sweep there.

### **Florida: Scott Suspends Broward County Official Brenda Snipes Over 'Widespread Issues with Voting'**

Outgoing Florida Gov. Rick Scott (R) issued an executive order on Friday to immediately suspend Broward County election chief Brenda Snipes following widespread criticism of the county's vote tallying in November's midterm elections. "Every eligible voter in Florida deserves their vote to be counted and should have confidence in Florida's elections process," Scott said in a statement. "After a series of inexcusable actions, it's clear that there needs to be an immediate change in Broward County and taxpayers should no longer be burdened by paying a salary for a Supervisor of Elections who has already announced resignation." Scott, one of Snipes's fiercest critics, cited "widespread issues with voting" and "misfeasance, incompetence and neglect of duty" as reasons for suspending the election official. Voting in Broward County this cycle took longer than other Florida counties and was marred by allegations of misconduct by election overseers.

### **Florida: Brenda Snipes Rescinds Resignation as Broward County Elections Chief**

Brenda Snipes has rescinded her resignation as Broward County elections supervisor, vowing to fight the immediate suspension slapped on her by outgoing Republican Florida Gov. Rick Scott for alleged misconduct. Snipes' change of heart was announced by Burnadette Norris-Weeks, counsel to the Broward County supervisor of elections' office, on Saturday, following Scott's signing of an executive order Friday to replace Snipes, a Democrat, with Republican Peter Antonacci, Scott's former general counsel. Scott, who is set to join Congress in the new year as the next senator from Florida, cited complaints against Snipes for "misfeasance, incompetence and neglect of duty." It is unclear how the order will affect the \$71,000 a year pension Snipes was due to receive when she stepped down from the post.

### **Georgia: Despite Claims of Suppression in Georgia, Registration and Turnout Increased Under Kemp**

"Brian Kemp oversaw for eight years the systematic and systemic dismantling of our democracy, and that means there could not be free and fair elections in Georgia this year." If Kemp, as Abrams claims, sought to disassemble democracy in Georgia, he failed by every measure. Not only has overall voter registration increased by 20 percent since Kemp took office as Georgia's secretary of state, but final tabulations

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indicate turnout in 2018 dwarfed previous midterm elections. This year, over 3.9 million individuals cast a ballot in Georgia's gubernatorial election. By comparison, only 2.5 million individuals voted in 2014 and 2.4 million in 2010. Georgia's total voter turnout this year was 55 percent, nearly 17 percentage points higher than 2014 and 14 percentage points greater than 2010. In 2018, the turnout totals rivaled prior presidential election years. In 2016, more than 59 percent of registered voters—or about 4 million—cast a ballot in Georgia, with similar numbers in 2012.

### **Georgia: Primary Do-Over**

Amid the runoffs, one Georgia primary election is being redone after a judge found the original vote in May was tainted by errors. State Rep. Dan Gasaway faces fellow Republican Chris Erwin in a primary do-over Tuesday in Georgia's northeast corner. Gasaway's 28th House District seat includes about half of Habersham County as well as Banks and Stephens counties. The candidates first clashed in the May 22 primary, which Erwin appeared to win by 67 votes. But a Superior Court judge ordered a new election after Habersham County officials acknowledged mapping mistakes led to some voters being assigned to the wrong House district. No Democrats ran for the seat. That means whoever prevails in this second round of GOP primary voting will be sworn in when the legislature reconvenes in January.

### **New Jersey: How an Increase in Mail-in Ballots Complicated the 2018 Election**

Allegations of voter fraud are common in Atlantic City, and sometimes pop up in other towns — usually over suspected mishandling of mail-in ballots. Use of the paper ballots, which hit a high of almost 12,000 of 96,000 votes cast in Atlantic County this November, is increasing with each election. That trend worries those concerned about ballot tampering and encourages those focused on increasing voter participation. The question is: How can election officials avoid both the reality of voter fraud and the perception of it, which undercuts faith in the electoral process, while allowing people access to the convenient form of voting? Unlike the machine count and provisional ballots, mail-ins are not overseen by election workers at all times. They go out through the mail and come back that way. "That means there is more opportunity for tampering with mail-ins than any other type of ballot", said Republican Freeholder Chairman Frank Formica.

### **North Carolina: Voter ID Bill Passes State Senate**

A proposed voter ID bill that follows a newly approved state constitutional amendment is halfway toward the governor's desk after passing the Republican-led N.C. Senate on Nov. 29, mostly along party lines. "I'm very supportive of the bill and the passage, as it's what the public has voted on," Sen. Deanna Ballard (R-Blowing Rock) said regarding her 'yes' vote. "Over 55 percent voted in favor of voter ID (in the election), and I'm happy to work toward appropriate language (for the bill)." The measure, Senate Bill 824, is being taken up in a lame duck session that state Republicans planned in June.

### **North Carolina: Possible Voter Fraud Probed in Tight NC House Race**

It's been nearly a month since North Carolina voters cast their ballots for the 9th Congressional District, but officials are still holding off on certifying the winner amid an investigation of possible voter fraud pertaining to absentee ballots.

### **Ohio: Clean Up Voter Registration Rolls**

Claims of "voter suppression" have sunk to new, ridiculous lows in many parts of the United States. Good for Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted for refusing to be cowed by them. Like conscientious chief election officers in many states, Husted thinks Ohio's voter registration rolls should be cleaned up. But when Husted, a Republican, decided to do that, liberals cried "voter suppression." A lawsuit was filed to block him. In June, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in Husted's favor. He decided to postpone implementation of the program until after the Nov. 6 election. Keeping voter registration rolls packed with people who do not exercise their franchise, who no longer live where they were once — or who have been dead for years — serves no one. Changing that is not "voter suppression," it is common sense.

### **Wisconsin: GOP State Lawmakers Look to Limit Early Voting In Lame Duck Session**

State lawmakers will vote next week on a number of Republican-backed proposals, including a plan to limit early voting in Wisconsin. The so-called "extraordinary session," approved by legislators on Friday and scheduled to begin Monday, is aimed at passing a number of new laws before Democratic Gov.-elect Tony

Evers takes office in January. One proposal would trim several days off Wisconsin's early voting window - a move opponents have argued is aimed at suppressing certain voting populations, including students and minorities.

## REDISTRICTING

### Free Beacon: Eric Holder-Led Group Releases State Target List Leading Up to 2020

A group focused on congressional redistricting efforts backed by President Barack Obama and led by former attorney general Eric Holder, a potential Democratic presidential contender, released a map of the states the organization will target leading up to the 2020 elections. A fundraising email reads. "We have red states, blue(-ish) states, and purple states on our list—but they're all states where we need to stop or prevent Republican gerrymandering."

### Michigan: Dispute Over Republican-Drawn District Maps Will Go to Trial

A three-judge panel has cleared the way for a trial that could upset districts in the Michigan Legislature and the state's congressional delegation. The panel says Democrats so far have presented sufficient evidence that constitutional rights were violated when Democratic areas were packed in certain districts or spread among many districts to dilute their influence. The panel of federal judges says emails exchanged by map makers "illustrate the profound extent to which partisan political considerations" were at play.

### New Jersey: To Combat Gerrymandering, N.J. Democrats Propose Drawing Maps to Entrench Their Power

New Jersey Democrats are seeking to amend the state constitution in a way that would entrench their power in Trenton. The proposal has drawn sharp criticism from experts who warn it would allow Democrats to unfairly draw the state's legislative districts in their favor. A group led by prominent national Democratic figures called it "a major step in the wrong direction."

### Virginia: Virginia GOP Asks Delay in Redistricting

Virginia Republicans have asked a federal court to delay Virginia's 2019 primary schedule for three months to enable the U.S. Supreme Court to settle a redistricting lawsuit. Republicans formally asked the court Wednesday to suspend efforts to redraw 11 House districts found to be racially gerrymandered.

The American Civil Rights Union

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 18, 2018 10:53 AM EDT  
**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>  
**Subject:** EIB: Special Report on North Carolina's Vulnerability to Voter Fraud

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A few weeks ago, the Department of Justice subpoenaed [millions of voter records](#) from county election offices investigating non-citizen voting in North Carolina. The ACRU provides an analysis that reveals critical vulnerabilities in North Carolina's voting administration system and explore how those weaknesses could impact election outcomes. This paper documents how easy it is to fraudulently vote in North Carolina, a state with few, if any, election safeguards. The [special report](#) provides a compilation of notable vote fraud practices, including the one which has the greatest impact on elections around our country—votes cast by noncitizens. A proposed constitutional amendment is on the ballot to require photo ID and appears to have the strong [support overall](#) and [with unaffiliated voters](#)

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 19, 2019 3:15 PM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: Supreme Court agreed to an expedited review of 2020 census including a question on U.S. citizenship; will also hear a Republican appeal of the U.S. District Court for decision that approved district boundaries

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The Supreme Court has agreed to an [expedited review](#) of the 2020 census including a question on U.S. citizenship; the Court will also hear a Republican appeal of the U.S. District Court for Eastern Virginia's decision that approved district [boundaries for the Virginia House of Delegates](#). While the National Popular Vote movement is [seeking to destroy the value of rural Americans' votes](#); new election jargon is under scrutiny as ["ballot harvesting"](#) is being exposed for the threat it truly is, and ["voter suppression"](#) is debunked as a study concludes Voter ID laws do not depress turnout. [Alabama official acknowledges](#) frequent absentee vote fraud; [New Hampshire's "Dixville Notch"](#) under scrutiny for election fraud; and [New Mexico audit suggests](#) absentee ballot fraud in its 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District. [Indiana rejects expanding absentee ballot time](#); while [South Carolina elections director resigns](#) and Harris County, [Texas loses attempt to hide noncitizen](#) voter roll data from the public. Read [this week's EIB](#).

## LEAD

### Supreme Court to Decide if Census Can Check U.S. Citizenship

The Supreme Court will decide whether the 2020 census can ask every person in America if they are a U.S. citizen, granting review Friday on a legal challenge to that question and bypassing the federal appeals court in an extremely rare move not seen in many years. The Constitution commands in Article I, Section 2, that every ten years the U.S. government will conduct a nationwide census, and that congressional seats will be apportioned among the states based on those numbers. The Constitution mentions the census again in Article I, Section 9, Clause 4. The Supreme Court long ago handed down a series of cases holding that the Equal Protection Clause of the Constitution's Fourteenth Amendment requires that every state and federal legislative district within each state must represent the same number of people. The Court characterized this rule as, "One person, one vote." Those district lines are likewise based on census data.

## FEDERAL

### Townhall: The Stupidity of Ballot Harvesting and How it Steals Elections

There is another new term in our lexicon – "ballot harvesting." It has begun to spread across the country and there could not be anything that is more destructive to protecting the sanctity of our democracy than this idea. Just look at North Carolina and California. Ballot harvesting is the process where organized workers or volunteers--people you don't know--collect absentee ballots from voters and drop them off at a polling place or election office. It makes sense that the same people who encourage ballot harvesting are against voter ID laws or having county registrars clean the voter rolls. It is not a farfetched idea to think they have ulterior motives other than getting a higher voter turnout. If they do not have an ulterior motive when they are ballot harvesting, why are they only doing that at homes they believe support their partisan interests instead of all homes to enhance the overall voter turnout? This is for purely partisan political interests; thus, it is obvious to common-sense minds that there will be fraud involved. Someone will take the process to the limit and then exceed the limit.

### National Popular Vote: Making Every Vote Unequal

Anti-Electoral College advocates see a window of opportunity to eliminate America's unique presidential election system. They are seizing the moment, working to implement change before anyone realizes what happened. They even think they can do it without a constitutional amendment. National Popular Vote (NPV) is a California-based effort that has been running under the radar. Its proponents ask state legislatures to agree to an interstate compact. By the terms of that simple contract, each participating state would agree to allocate its entire slate of electors to the winner of the national popular vote. This is a change from the current system in which states award electors based on the internal state popular vote.

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NPV claims it is simply using constitutional provisions in a unique way. In reality the compact would effectively eliminate the Electoral College. NPV's plan goes into effect when states representing 270 electoral votes (enough to win the presidency) have agreed to the compact. To date, 11 states plus D.C. have approved the measure. Those states hold 172 electoral votes among them. NPV hopes to reach 250 electors by the end of the year. They would need just 20 more during the early months of 2020 to put their plan into action before the presidential election.

### **Fox News: William Barr is Our New Attorney General -- Here are Four Things He Should Focus on Right Away**

With the confirmation of William Barr as the 85th Attorney General of the United States, we now have an experienced hand leading the Department of Justice. At his confirmation hearing, Barr vowed to focus on violent crime, enforce our immigration laws, and protect the right to vote. But our country faces many additional challenges today, many of which require the active involvement of the Attorney General. Barr testified that election integrity is one of the "foundations of our Nation" that is fundamental "to the peaceful transition of power through elections." There is much to be done in this area, particularly because it is something the prior administration entirely neglected. That includes everything from finally going after states that refuse to maintain the accuracy of their voter registration rolls as required under federal law, to prosecuting election crimes such as aliens who illegally register and vote.

### **Townhall: 'Suppression,' Debunked: Study Concludes Voter ID Laws Do Not Depress Voter Turnout**

One pillar of dogma among leftist activists is that voter ID laws, under which citizens are required to present a valid form of identification in order to cast ballots in elections, amount to insidious and racist forms of "voter suppression." That term deserves to be placed in scare quotes because it's often employed as a catch-all phrase to describe any policy or idea that liberals believe would reduce their chances of winning. Voter ID laws have been upheld by the Supreme Court as constitutional and enjoy overwhelming public support -- including approval from large majorities of racial minorities, who evidently don't share the professional Left's racialized hysteria.

## **STATES**

### **Alabama: Alabama Absentee Voting Fraud Happens 'Frequently,' Prosecutors Letting it Slide**

Alabama Secretary of State John Merrill testified in front of the U.S. House Homeland Security Committee Wednesday, warning against "federal overreach" and advising that absentee voting fraud occurs in the state "frequently" but is seldom prosecuted in local jurisdictions. This legislation championed by the leftwing of the national Democratic Party, entitled the "For the People Act," proposes a massive overhaul of the federal election and campaign finance systems. He added that H.R. 1, if it were to pass against all odds, would not be able to be adhered to on the timeline mandated by the legislation because the federal government and most state agencies across the nation "move at the speed of government."

### **Colorado: National Popular Vote Legislation Clears Committee, Heads to House Floor**

A stark divide in electoral political philosophy was on display Tuesday at a House committee hearing on a bill that would make fundamental changes in the way Colorado's presidential electoral votes are counted. The bill was passed on a party line vote by the Democrat majority. Senate Bill 19-042, titled "National Popular Vote," proposes Colorado join a compact between states that requires member states to appoint electors "in association with the national popular vote (NPV) winner" and to give all their electoral votes to the NPV winner. The NPV totals for each candidate are determined by adding together the number of votes in each state "in which votes have been cast in a statewide popular election." Colorado's chief election official, the Secretary of State, is then required to declare which slate of presidential candidates is the NPV winner. The bill mandates that the slate of electors nominated "in association with" the national popular vote winner, meaning by the party involved, be appointed as electors.

### **Georgia: Stacey Abrams' False Claims About Election Integrity**

In her response on behalf of Democrats to the State of the Union address, Stacey Abrams employed more of the over-the-top rhetoric that has come to characterize political opposition in the age of Trump. After laying out her grievances against the president and offering few concrete policies, Abrams's speech pivoted to a harangue intended to perpetuate the liberal and media-driven myth that there is an epidemic



of voter suppression going on in this country. Abrams' propagation of the voter suppression myth used to condemn the efforts of states to safeguard elections does a disservice to our democratic system.

### **Indiana: House Rejects Effort to Give Voters More Time to Get Absentee Ballots**

Democrats in the Indiana House tried and failed in their efforts to assure that Hoosiers have more time to apply for an absentee ballot. House Bill 1311, authored by Rep. Thomas Saunders, R-Lewisville, would change the amount of time to apply for an absentee ballot from eight to 12 days before an election because local county clerks had said they needed more time to process them.

### **Michigan: Ex-Oak Park Elections Director Funneled Money to Husband, Indictment Claims**

A former elections director in a Detroit suburb is accused of paying her husband more than \$430,000 in a scheme to steal money. Stephanie Sumner was Oak Park's elections director from 2012 to 2015. She and husband Michael Sumner are charged with conspiracy and other crimes. An indictment accuses Stephanie Sumner of creating fraudulent invoices and listing her husband as a vendor. The government says the scheme started early in 2013 after they filed for bankruptcy in 2012. Not-guilty pleas were entered Monday by a judge in Detroit federal court. The charges include tax crimes. The government says the money wasn't reported on tax returns for 2013, 2014 and 2015.

### **Minnesota: St. Louis Park Woman Charged with Voter Fraud**

A 20-year-old St. Louis Park woman has been charged after authorities say she voted twice during elections held in October and November of 2017. According to a criminal complaint, Zameahia Jama Ismail faces one count of unlawful voting, a felony. The complaint said authorities were asked to investigate Ismail in May 2018 following an allegation that she voted twice in Hennepin County during the 2017 elections. Hennepin County elections officials provided documents that indicated she voted in both St. Louis Park and Minneapolis, the complaint said.

### **New Hampshire: 'First In The Nation' Voting Site Under Scrutiny For Alleged Election Law Violations**

The New Hampshire primary is tentatively scheduled for Feb. 11, 2020, which is only — or "still," depending on your tolerance for campaign coverage — about a year away. And for the past half-century, one of the most recognizable symbols of the Granite State's early electoral contest has been Dixville Notch's midnight vote. Since 1960, the citizens of this tiny hamlet about 20 miles south of the Canadian border have gathered at midnight to cast the first official ballots in the presidential race, while camera crews gather to cover a ritual that's viewed by many as democracy in its purest form. But State election investigators started scrutinizing its local voter checklist shortly after the 2016 presidential election, in response to complaints questioning whether everyone who was voting in Dixville Notch actually lived there. "The transparency of the media coverage is part of what led to the concerns that were raised with our office regarding Dixville Notch and whether there were irregularities with the 2016 elections," says New Hampshire Associate Attorney General Anne Edwards. Once investigators started looking more closely, it didn't take long to pinpoint those irregularities — because Dixville Notch's voter lists aren't very long. Fewer than a dozen people voted in Dixville Notch in 2016. Most of them, the state determined, probably should have voted somewhere else.

### **New Mexico: Audit Finds Signs of Fraud in New Mexico House Race**

An audit of absentee ballots suggests fraud may have occurred in one of the closest House races in the country, The Daily Signal has learned. Democrat Xochitl Torres Small squeaked by Republican Yvette Herrell in the final results of the Nov. 6 election. On election night, Herrell declared victory in the race to represent New Mexico's 2nd Congressional District. But as more votes were counted, Torres Small secured the win. The roughly 3,500-vote victory for Torres Small—out of about 200,000 cast in the southern New Mexico district—relied heavily on absentee ballots from Doña Ana County, the largest county in the district, including the Las Cruces area. The liberal Left continue to push their radical agenda against American values. The good news is there is a solution. A new audit report obtained by The Daily Signal alleges a "concerted effort" to push for absentee votes where New Mexico voter ID laws are not enforced. It also points to potential fraud in applying for absentee ballots and says a significant number of absentee ballots were time-stamped after the 7 p.m. deadline election night. The report was prepared for the losing Herrell campaign by Full Compliance Consulting LLC and Herrell campaign lawyer Carter B. Harrison.

## South Carolina: Richland County Elections Director Resigns

Richland County elections and voter registration director Rokey Suleman has resigned. Suleman informed the county elections board of his decision on Saturday, according to board chairwoman Jane Emerson. His resignation comes after The Post & Courier reported that about 1 percent of the 142,000 votes cast in last November's election did not get counted.

## South Carolina: Beaufort County Man Sentenced to Jail After Voting in Elections Even Though He Was Not a U.S. Citizen

State officials say an Eastern Carolina man pled guilty to a charge of voting by an alien. 72-year-old Dieudonne Soifils was registered to vote in 2012 after executing a voter registration form claiming to be a United States citizen under penalty of perjury. The Haitian citizen was assigned a polling station in Beaufort County where he voted in the 2012 and 2016 general elections for president, vice-president, and members of the House of Representatives. The Document and Benefit Fraud Task Force in the Eastern District of North Carolina lead by Immigration and Customs investigated Soifils. He was sentenced to 12 months' probation and a \$25 special assessment. The investigation into voting fraud is ongoing.

## Texas: Harris County Lost Another Attempt to Keep Hiding Noncitizen Voter Roll Data from the Public

A federal judge has denied the county's motion to dismiss a lawsuit filed by Public Interest Legal Foundation, a law firm dedicated entirely to election integrity. The foundation sued Harris County Voter Registrar Ann Bennett last year under a transparency provision of the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA), after Bennett's office refused a request for access to voter records. Section 8 of the NVRA, also known as the "Motor Voter" law, requires voter registration officials to let the public see "all records concerning the implementation of programs and activities conducted for the purpose of ensuring the accuracy and currency of official lists of eligible voters." PILF requested access to records of registered voters identified through various sources as noncitizens, as well as any actions taken by the county regarding those registrations.

## REDISTRICTING

### Virginia: Federal Court Orders Virginia to Adopt New Map

A federal court on Thursday approved district boundaries for the Virginia House of Delegates redrawn by a court-appointed expert that will likely make it more difficult for House Republicans to defend their current 51-48 majority. Judges at the U.S. District Court for Eastern Virginia approved the new map in a 2-1 opinion. Republicans argued that the map "attempts to give Democrats an advantage at every turn." The U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to hear a Republican appeal of the lower court decision in March, a legal action that VPAP says could delay the primary elections from June until after Labor Day.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 16, 2018 8:54 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: Supreme Court upholds North Dakota Voter ID, Rasmussen Poll Finds Growing Confidence in Elections and Electoral College

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The [Supreme Court upholds](#) North Dakota's voter ID law 6-2 with Justice Kavanaugh not participating in the opinion. A look at why the midterm elections will weigh heavy on [post-2020 redistricting](#). A series of Rasmussen polls show that voters have [more faith](#) in the upcoming elections, and yes, in the [Electoral College](#). A [federal judge sides](#) with Ohio over their voter list maintenance program, again. Mail ballot fraud in [Texas](#) and [Oregon](#).

Read more in the latest [Election Integrity Bulletin](#)

## LEAD

### North Dakota: U.S. Supreme Court Rules 6-2 in Favor of North Dakota's Voter ID law.

The Supreme Court, responding to an emergency appeal, released a decision on a 6-2 vote that will allow the state to require a residential address on a driver's license or ID card to vote and won't accept a post office box except with supplemental proof of a residential address. In the ruling, the Supreme Court rejected the emergency appeal by attorneys representing a group of Native Americans in the state challenging North Dakota's voter ID law. Two justices, Elena Kagan and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, dissented. Ginsburg, in writing the dissent, said the decision could result in "voter confusion" and an "incentive to remain away from the polls."

## FEDERAL

### Analysis: Midterms Will Weigh Heavy on Post-2020 Redistricting

The redistricting wars, which since 2010 have worked to the advantage of the Republicans, are about to take a potentially significant turn. The midterm elections, along with efforts in states to reduce partisan redistricting, are likely to make the post-2020 battles more competitive. The 2010 midterm elections cost Democrats control of the U.S. House, but they also did substantial damage to the party's strength in the states: Democrats lost hundreds of seats in state legislatures and surrendered their majority of governorships to the Republicans.

### Rasmussen Poll: Voters Have More Faith in U.S. Elections These Days

Voters are now more confident than they have been in over six years that U.S. elections are fair to voters. A new Rasmussen Reports national telephone and online survey finds that 51% of Likely U.S. Voters now think American elections are fair to voters, up 10 points from 41% in early 2016 and the highest level of confidence in U.S. elections since a high of 57% last reached just before the 2012 presidential election.

### ICYMI - Federalist: Voter Fraud Is Real. Here's The Proof (2016)

Data suggests millions of voter registrations are fraudulent or invalid. That's enough to tip an election, easily. So now that we know voter fraud is a serious issue, what are some solutions to this problem? States like Michigan have Poll Challenger programs, where observers from both parties may be present at voter check-in tables at precincts.

### Rasmussen Poll: Support for Dumping Electoral College Is Down

Voters are less enthusiastic these days about taking the Electoral College out of the presidential election process. Interestingly, opponents of the Electoral College are less likely to know what it does. The latest Rasmussen Reports national telephone and online survey finds that 46% of Likely U.S. Voters still favor eliminating the Electoral College so that whoever wins a majority of the popular vote wins a presidential election. Forty-one percent (41%) are opposed, while 13% are undecided.

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## STATES

### **Arkansas: Arkansas Supreme Court Upholds Revised Voter ID Law**

Arkansas' highest court on Thursday upheld a voter ID law that is nearly identical to a restriction struck down by the court four years ago. The 5-2 decision from the Arkansas Supreme Court means the law, which requires voters to show photo identification before casting a ballot, will remain in effect in this year's midterm election.

### **California: California Admits DMV Error Added Non-Citizens to Voter Rolls**

An error at California's Department of Motor Vehicles caused more than a thousand people, including some who were not U.S. citizens, to be incorrectly registered to vote, state officials said Monday. The DMV admitted that a "processing error" at agency field offices resulted in as many as 1,500 people being added to voter rolls between April 23 and Sept. 25.

### **Indiana: Possible Cases of Voter Registration Fraud Pop Up in Hendricks County**

As we approach the November mid-term elections there are already possible case of voter registration fraud. In Hendricks County, county clerk Debbie Hoskins said as they've been looking over voter registrations for the midterm elections, they've noticed some "suspicious" looking paperwork on file. Hoskins said they first started seeing odd registrations popping up around July.

### **Missouri: Attorney General Will Appeal Judge's Ruling Striking Down Part of Missouri Voter ID Law**

Missouri Attorney General Josh Hawley's office plans to appeal a court ruling that struck down part of Missouri's voter ID law, his office announced Wednesday. In a statement, Hawley said his office "is preparing to appeal the ruling and will promptly seek a stay pending appeal." Missouri Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft criticized the timing of the ruling in a statement Wednesday morning, saying it's "unduly creating mass confusion."

### **North Carolina: On the ballot: Should the NC Constitution Require a Photo ID to Vote?**

One of the most hotly debated questions on the Nov. 6 ballot pits concerns about voter participation against worries about ballot security. Backers of the proposed constitutional amendment that would require photo identification for people to vote in future elections say it would prevent fraud and increase trust in the outcome of elections.

### **Ohio: Federal Judge Deals Another Blow to Group Challenging Ohio's voter roll purge**

A federal judge ruled that notification forms Ohio sends to voters in its process to remove inactive voters from its rolls are compliant with federal law, dealing another blow to a group challenging the state's voter purge process. Senior U.S. District Judge George Smith disagreed in an opinion, largely ruling against the plaintiffs and saying the forms complied with federal law. The judge's decision comes after a 5-4 U.S. Supreme Court ruling in June that upheld Ohio's voter purging processes. Smith's ruling only focused on the forms the state sent to inactive voters.

### **Oregon: Cautionary Tale of Voter Fraud in Central Oregon**

Sharon Barney-Orlando was out of town during the January special election. So when her ballot came in the mail, her husband recycled it without a second thought. About a week later, Barney-Orlando received a letter from the Deschutes County Clerk's office. Someone had stolen the ballot, forged her signature -- and, in doing so, stolen her vote. Election officials caught the mismatched signatures and didn't count the ballot. They sent out a notice to confirm whether Barney-Orlando signed it, and it was a fluke, or if someone harmed the integrity of her ballot.

### **Texas: Four Arrested in Voting Fraud Scheme that Targeted Fort Worth Seniors.**

Four women have been arrested and indicted on 30 felony counts of voter fraud in the 2016 election. The women were paid to harvest mail-in ballots from senior citizens in North Fort Worth, a statement from the Texas attorney general's office claims. The voter fraud ring forged some signatures and lied to obtain others, edited old applications and resubmitted them without the voters' knowledge, according to the office. "Ballots by mail are intended to make it easier for Texas seniors to vote," Attorney General Ken Paxton

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said in a prepared statement. "The unfortunate downside is their extreme vulnerability to fraud."

### **Texas: Former Texas Border County Employee Accused of Mail Ballot Voter Fraud**

Police in South Texas arrested a fired Starr County Democrat precinct worker on multiple voter fraud charges related to the upcoming 2018 midterm election. Starr County District Attorney Omar Escobar, Jr., confirmed to the *Monitor* that, on Thursday, investigators with his office took into custody Modesta Vela, 60, and charged her with four felony counts of illegal voting, election fraud, and knowingly possessing a ballot or ballot envelope of another person with the intent to defraud, as well as a misdemeanor charge of unlawful assistance of a voter.

### **REDISTRICTING**

### **Pennsylvania Redistricting Gives Democrats Huge Boost in Bid to Flip House**

There's little good news for Republicans when it comes to the battle for control of the U.S. House, save for one district in southwestern Pennsylvania that every prognosticator says is a virtual lock to flip to the GOP next month. The tradeoff for that, however, is six or seven other Pennsylvania seats that Democrats have designs on — all because of a major court-ordered redraw earlier this year of the state's congressional maps, moving them from overwhelmingly Republican to competitively Democratic.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 23, 2018 10:42 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: Trump Issues Warning on Voter Fraud; Texas Democrats Send Pre-Populated Registration Applications to Non-Citizens; Reapportionment Forecast of Citizen Population

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With [record turnout](#) in early voting, President Trump [tweets a warning](#) to those engaged in voter fraud. Texas Democrats [send registration applications to non-citizens with pre-checked box on citizenship](#). The brother of Florida's gubernatorial candidate may have [fraudulently voted](#) in 2016. With the pending North Carolina case, speculation that Supreme Court Justice Kavanaugh could be the [end of constitutional challenges](#) to partisan gerrymandering.

In redistricting, the Supreme Court [halts the deposition](#) of Commerce Secretary Ross over the census citizenship questionnaire. Plus a [deep dive into the impact](#) on political representation - who gains and who loses - if only citizens were part of the reapportionment process in 2020. There is even more in this [week's EIB](#).

## LEAD

### “Maximum Penalties”: President Trump Issues Stern Warning for Anyone Engaging in Voter Fraud

President Trump on Saturday tweeted a warning to people engaged in voter fraud, stating that those found guilty would be subject to “both civil and criminal” penalties. “All levels of government and Law Enforcement are watching carefully for VOTER FRAUD, including during EARLY VOTING,” Trump tweeted. “Cheat at your own peril. Violators will be subject to maximum penalties, both civil and criminal!”

## FEDERAL

### USA Today: Voting Integrity Should Not be Seen as a Partisan Issue

The claim that Republicans are “suppressing” votes or making it harder to register is a myth designed to scare voters. The 1992 National Voter Registration Act imposes strict rules for voter registration and how states must maintain the accuracy of those rolls. It is very easy to register to vote all over the country, with just a one-page mail-in form in those states that require registration. The claim that requiring an ID to vote keeps people out of the polls is false. States such as Georgia and Indiana not only have had no problems in more than a decade with voter ID laws, but voter turnout actually increased after their laws went into effect. This demonstrates that public confidence in the integrity and validity of elections is critical to increasing voter participation.

### Investor's Daily: U.S. Has 3.5 Million More Registered Voters Than Live Adults — A Red Flag for Electoral Fraud

American democracy has a problem — a voting problem. According to a new study of U.S. Census data, America has more registered voters than actual live voters. It's a troubling fact that puts our nation's future in peril. As reported by the National Review's Deroy Murdock, who did some numbers-crunching of his own, “some 3.5 million more people are registered to vote in the U.S. than are alive among America's adult citizens. Such staggering inaccuracy is an engraved invitation to voter fraud.”

### Daily Signal: Killing the Electoral College Would Alienate Half the Country

The call to eliminate the Electoral College reflects an underlying contempt for our Constitution and its protections for personal liberty. The Founders saw our nation as being composed of sovereign states that voluntarily sought to join a union under the condition that each state admitted would be coequal with every other state. The Electoral College method of choosing the president and vice president guarantees that each state, whether large or small in area or population, has some voice in selecting the nation's leaders.

### Daily Journal: Sessions Criticizes Court Order on Deposition in Census Case

Attorney General Jeff Sessions criticized a court order that allows for the questioning of Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross on how a citizenship question came to be added to the 2020 census. The court's

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actions, the attorney general said in a speech to the conservative Heritage Foundation, represent an improper attempt “to hold a trial over the inner-workings of a Cabinet secretary’s mind.” With his remarks, Sessions waded into a simmering legal dispute that may ultimately be resolved by the Supreme Court, which solidified its conservative majority with the recent addition of Justice Kavanaugh.

### **Breitbart: Big Tech Engages in Massive Voter Registration Push Before Midterms**

Big Tech companies, including Google, Facebook, Twitter, and Snapchat are encouraging their users to register to vote before the United States midterm elections in November. Google turned its search homepage into a call to action for voter registration to mark National Voter Registration Day.

## **STATES**

### **Connecticut: DMV Shouldn't Be Making Judgment Calls on Voter Eligibility**

The state Department of Motor Vehicles is facing an elections complaint, filed by a pair of registrars of voters, that says the much-maligned agency shouldn't be making judgment calls on voter eligibility — and is doing so sometimes erroneously. The Republican and Democratic registrars of Greenwich filed a joint complaint Oct. 9 against the DMV, alleging that it haphazardly added a local woman to the election rolls who clearly indicated that she is not a U.S. citizens and did not want to register to vote.

### **Florida: Andrew Gillum's Family Under Investigation; May Have Engaged in Voter Fraud**

Less than a year before gubernatorial candidate Andrew Gillum publicly denounced President Donald Trump's efforts to investigate the threat of voter fraud, Gillum's brother, Marcus Gillum, voted in the 2016 general election in Tallahassee, Florida while a resident of Chicago, Illinois. According to Florida law, you must be a legal resident in Florida to vote in elections. Casting an illegal vote in Florida is a third-degree felony.

### **Georgia: Georgia's 'Pending Voter' Rowdydow More an Election Issue Than a Voting One**

Democrats have tried to make a scandal out of Georgia's estimated 53,000 “pending” voter registrations in advance of the Nov. 6 election. They've tried to make it appear as if Republican Secretary of State and gubernatorial candidate Brian Kemp is trying to suppress minority voting. For one thing, if Kemp is trying to suppress votes, he's not doing a very good job of it: Those whose registrations are pending -- because their names don't match state or federal records -- can indeed vote in the Nov. 6 election with a valid I.D. that clears up the confusion.

### **North Carolina: Why North Carolina Needs a Photo Voter ID Amendment**

Even foreign election observers have confirmed our warnings about this state's election laws: When it comes to preventing voter fraud, North Carolina falls below nations like Libya and Mexico. Summarizing the opinions of 60-plus United Nations observers, Foreign Policy Magazine wrote, “The most often noted difference between American elections among the visitors was that in most U.S. states, voters need no identification . . . and there's often no way to know if one person has voted several times under different names.”

### **Pennsylvania: Rep. Metcalfe Calls Out Commissioner Marks, Wolf Administration for Hiding the Truth on Illegally Voting Foreign Nationals**

Pennsylvania House State Government Committee Chairman Daryl Metcalfe (R-Butler), convened a public hearing focusing on the ongoing efforts to protect and improve election integrity. Metcalfe called out Commissioner Jonathan Marks, Pennsylvania Department of State, Bureau of Commissions, Elections and Legislation, for withdrawing his testimony less than 30 minutes before the start of today's meeting.

### **Texas: Texas Dems Under Investigation After Sending Voting Applications with Citizenship Box Pre-Checked to Non-citizens**

The Texas Democratic Party is under investigation after being accused of sending out voter-registration applications to non-citizens with the citizenship box already checked “Yes.” Following the reports of the alleged violation, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott said the issue is “being investigated” and “there will be serious consequences” if confirmed. “A complaint says the Texas Democratic Party asked noncitizens to register to vote, sending applications with citizenship box pre-checked. This is being investigated. If true there will

be serious consequences,” he wrote in a tweet.

## REDISTRICTING

### Bloomberg Law: Kavanaugh, Court Could Bury Partisan Gerrymandering Challenges

A strengthened conservative U.S. Supreme Court majority with the addition of Justice Brett Kavanaugh could spell the end of constitutional challenges to partisan gerrymandering. The court is likely to take up the issue again this term in a North Carolina case, and reach a decision next year at the earliest—too late to influence the congressional midterms in less than a month. Before, there were four justices who thought “there were viable standards to root out partisan gerrymandering,” four who thought...

### Virginia: California Professor from 2015 Gerrymandering Case will Redraw Virginia’s Voting Map

Bernard Grofman, a political science professor at University of California, Irvine, who has worked on another Virginia redistricting case, will redraw more of the state’s voting maps as a court-appointed “special master” to fix 11 House of Delegates districts that were ruled to be racially gerrymandered. Republicans opposed Grofman’s appointment in a September court filing, saying that when he redrew the 3rd district, it benefited Democrats and cost former Republican U.S. Rep. Randy Forbes a seat. “This deprived Virginia of a high-ranking member of Congress,” Republicans wrote.

### Fairlines: 2020 Reapportionment Forecast – Total Citizen Population

In 2020, the decennial census is currently set to include a citizenship question on the short-form for the first time since 1950. Litigation over that question is currently ongoing (see *State of Alabama v. U.S. Department of Commerce*). There is however no debate that doing so would return representation to many states that lost seats in the 2010 and 2000 reapportionments and save many potentially lost seats in 2020. Distributing seats based on citizens rather than residents would not completely reverse long-term reapportionment trends.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 02, 2019 2:10 PM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: Voter fraud: lights, camera, action! Just who is bankrolling the overturn of our electoral process? Local candidate in Massachusetts outed for vote fraud – ouch!

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[Voter fraud: lights, camera, action!](#) Just who is bankrolling the overturn of our electoral process? Local candidate in [Massachusetts outed for vote fraud](#) – ouch! How [California has legalized vote fraud](#); and how a group of Colorado citizens are [fighting to protect their state's electoral power](#). Florida legislators advance [sensible reforms to secure election integrity](#); while [New Mexico loosens deadlines](#) and opens floodgate to vote fraud. North Carolina wants [tough punishment for election crimes](#); and Texas [SOS continues to pursue vote fraudsters](#). Meanwhile, the Supreme Court has heard the [arguments in the redistricting debate](#). Now we wait...[this week's EIB](#).

## LEAD

### Voter Fraud Expose

Project Veritas has released undercover footage which shows Florida residents and voters expressing shock when told that voter data shows they also voted in the state of New York. All three Floridians moved from the state of New York several years ago. Project Veritas believes these individuals are the victims, not culprits, of voter fraud.

## FEDERAL

### Daily Signal: Who's Bankrolling the National Popular Vote Movement

The nonprofit organization building a coalition of states that favor choosing the president by popular vote promotes itself as nonpartisan but is financed by millions of dollars from left-leaning groups. Most of the funding for the nonprofit, National Popular Vote Inc., has come from a wealthy Democrat and a billionaire independent. "We could find no conservative institutional donors to the organization," Scott Walter, president of the Capital Research Center, told The Daily Signal. "We found 16 instances of grants from institutional donors, and none were conservative." But the compact should be a tough sell as a bipartisan effort, particularly since it "is mostly funded by the left," said Hans von Spakovsky, manager of The Heritage Foundation's Election Law Reform Initiative.

### Real Clear Politics: "For the People Act" Is Mostly "For the Party Act"

Government dysfunction is the result of many years of party leaders trashing our electoral and governing processes for partisan advantage. The bill's biggest problem is a new campaign finance system that, rather than requiring absolute transparency for all donations, would funnel large amounts of taxpayer money to fund elections. The measure also fails to address many areas abused by the leaders of both parties. These include: the exclusion of independent voters in publicly financed primary elections; a broken ballot access system; the lack of standardized debate processes, along with the House and Senate rules that both parties have abused, such as the filibuster and the use of unrelated amendments to kill legislation. The big problem is that HR 1 appears to omit any reform that would adversely impact the Democratic Party. Written to maximize partisan advantage, the Democratic sponsors knew it stood no chance of being enacted. A sincere effort at political reform would have included elements detrimental to *both* parties, such as open primaries and term limits. Instead, the Democratic authors cared more about the messaging than actually effecting change.

## STATES

### California: What Is 'Ballot Harvesting' and How Is it Being Used in California Elections?

Would you trust a complete stranger with your ballot? The practice of handing off an absentee ballot to a family member, a friend or a campaign organizer is commonly referred to as 'ballot harvesting' or 'ballot collecting.' "California has voted to make it a legal practice," confirmed Dr. Kevin Wallsten, Associate

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Professor of Political Science at California State University-Long Beach. "Prior to 2016, only a family member could collect your ballot and turn it in for you. After 2016, it is now possible for anybody to collect a ballot on your behalf and turn it in to the appropriate election official." Ballot collecting is legal in 27 states plus Washington D.C. Unlike other states, the practice of ballot collecting in California has very [few] regulations. "The only requirement is someone ask you and get your permission and turn it in in your behalf. There is no limit on the number of ballots a person can collect. They can turn in 100, 200, 300 if they like," said Wallsten.

### **California: California's Elections Compromised... by State Legislature**

Dead voters are just the tip of the iceberg of California's compromised elections process according to Linda Paine, founder of the Election Integrity Project, a non-profit, non-partisan corporation focused on assuring that every legally cast vote is properly counted and reported. California has passed a spate of new election laws that some Democrats in Congress now want to adopt as a federal mandate nationwide, including "top two" primary elections, automatic voter registration through the DMV, allowing non-citizens to vote in local elections, allowing mail ballots to arrive **after** Election Day, rejecting voter ID, ballot harvesting, same-day registration and voting, allowing voters to "cure" their mail ballot signature mismatches via the honor system and, in 2020, providing all registrants with mail ballots. "It's like a Trojan Horse," Paine said. "California is no longer functioning like a Republic – "it's more like an oligarchy at every jurisdiction and in every county." However, Paine promised, "We are moving heaven and hell, with or without the California Legislature."

### **Colorado: Group Hopes to Overturn National Popular Vote Bill at Ballot Box**

A small group of Colorado citizens is hoping to overturn a bill passed earlier this year joining the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact (NPV), a workaround to implement a major shift to the Electoral College without amending the Constitution but which detractors argue is unconstitutional. Although 12 states and the District of Columbia have already passed NPV legislation, the effort [w]ould create one of the first times a citizenry will vote on the idea and could make the state a proxy in the ongoing debate over the Electoral College as more Democratic presidential candidates are campaigning on abolishing the constitutionally created institution. Colorado's constitution allows citizens to reject laws passed by the state general assembly with a ballot referendum, a challenge that's been eagerly accepted by Mayor Don Wilson (R.) of Monument, a small suburb just north of Colorado Springs. "Some of these people that don't have an understanding of the Electoral College or don't understand what the National Popular Vote does, it's as simple as, 'Hey, do you really want Raiders fans deciding your vote?'" Wilson said.

### **Florida: Bill Aiming to Avoid a Repeat of 2018 Election Gaffes Sparks Debate About Voter Access**

A committee bill in the Florida house looking to make sweeping changes to the state's election laws has cleared a key committee stop. A number of them would modify the state's vote-by-mail procedure, which sparked a partisan debate about voter access. "The 2018 election, once again and unfortunately placed Florida in the national spotlight. While most of our election officials and poll workers did an outstanding job following the law, others struggled to do so," said Representative Blaise Ingoglia, who presented the bill in the Public Integrity and Ethics Committee Thursday. The measure would make changes Ingoglia says would avoid future embarrassments to the state while increasing voter access. For starters, it would move the last day to request vote by mail ballots from six to 10 days out before an election. "Currently that standard is six days to request, and four days to mail out. And quite frankly, my opinion that's just basically playing with fire," Ingoglia said. The bill also prohibits supervisors of election from mailing out ballots less than 8 days prior to the elections. And, it seeks to allow supervisors to mail domestic vote-by-mail ballots earlier than before, between 40 and 28 days out, Ingoglia says, "Instead of the current 35 to 28 days – therefor extending voting in the state by up to five extra days. I totally reject the idea that we are limiting access. We are expanding access in this bill." Ingoglia said. "We are putting in place a structure where we can fix a lot of the problems we saw in the 2018 election."

### **Massachusetts: Sturbridge Hotel Owner Accused of Voting in Two Towns in 2016 Election**

A local hotel owner who's running for a three-year seat on the Board of Selectman in April's town election voted twice in the last presidential election, once in Sturbridge and once in Shrewsbury, and also in several other recent elections, officials say. Jayesh Patel, 57, was living at 3 Turtle Creek Circle, Shrewsbury, when he voted in the presidential election on Nov. 8, 2016. He also voted in Sturbridge in the 2016 presidential election, Sturbridge Town Clerk Lynne Girouard and Shrewsbury Town Clerk Sandra Wright confirmed.



## **New Mexico: NM Adopts Election-Day Voter Registration**

New Mexico will extend voter registration through Election Day beginning in 2020 under a new law that does away with a 28-day registration blackout before elections. New Mexico Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham on Wednesday signed legislation designed to increase participation in statewide elections through same-day registration and voting.

## **New York: U.S. Supreme Court to Hear Appeal in Troy Ballot-Fraud Lawsuit**

The U.S. Supreme Court has the opportunity to resolve an issue regarding a question of timeliness when it hears the appeal of a federal civil rights lawsuit that grew out of the prosecution of the decade-old Troy ballot fraud criminal case.

## **North Carolina: State BOE Wants Tougher Penalties for Election Crimes**

The top official at the State Board of Elections wants tougher punishment for election crimes, suggesting special prosecutors should be appointed if district attorneys or federal authorities refuse to investigate wrongdoing. The board's Executive Director Kim Strach delivered what she called a menu of vital reforms to tackle election corruption Wednesday, March 13, to the House Elections and Ethics Law Committee.

Strach said more money was needed to expand the elections board's investigative staff to combat election fraud better and catch it earlier. The elections board doesn't have criminal investigation powers and can't force prosecutors to launch probes.

## **Texas: SOS Moves to Settle 'Non-Citizen' Voter List Lawsuit**

A settlement may be in the works for a lawsuit brought forth after the Texas Secretary of State's office released a list of thousands of names of voters it said may not be citizens. Meanwhile, lawmakers on federal oversight committees in Washington, D.C. are opening an investigation into the release. Civil rights and voter groups sued after Secretary of State David Whitley sent the list of 95,000 names to counties throughout Texas in January. The State's attorneys and the State's director of elections have repeatedly argued the list of names was supposed to be further investigated by local county elections officials and treated as a "weak" match. On March 25, Whitley provided settlement terms to each of the lawsuit plaintiffs, according to a document filed Wednesday in court.

## **Texas: Details Revealed in Six Cases of Alleged Voter Fraud**

The Mission police department found that a complaint lodged against a McAllen City Commission candidate accused of committing voter fraud "held merit" and forwarded it to the Texas Attorney General's office for further investigation, fueling an already-heated political firestorm that sparked in Edinburg. The Monitor obtained a copy of the Mission police report from Houston attorney Jerad Najvar, who filed the complaint against Tania Yanet Ramirez on March 1. Najvar accused Ramirez of voting illegally in at least three Mission elections last year based on residency information she provided in her application to run for the District 4 seat on the McAllen commission. The complaint against Ramirez is part of Najvar's attempt to discredit the ongoing attorney general investigation into alleged voter fraud in Edinburg's 2017 municipal election. The Houston attorney is currently defending a group of people aligned with Edinburg Mayor Richard Molina, who has seen 14 of his supporters arrested on felony illegal voting charges since he was elected mayor.

## **Texas: U.S. House Committee Investigating Texas Voter Roll Review**

The U.S. House's main investigative committee has opened an inquiry into the Texas secretary of state's review of the voter rolls for supposed noncitizens. In letters sent to top Texas officials on Thursday, U.S. Reps. Elijah Cummings, the Democratic chair of the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and Jamie Raskin, D-Maryland, requested documents and communications from the secretary of state and the state's attorney general related to the review through which state officials tagged almost 100,000 registered voters as suspect voters. Texas officials rolled out the review effort in late January, shipping off lists of flagged voters to county voter registrars in what they described as routine maintenance of the state's massive voter registration database. But state officials' efforts have been dogged by errors in the data and litigation in federal court, which ground the entire review to a halt over concerns by a federal judge that it targeted naturalized citizens.

## Texas: State Organization, County Judge Address Possible Ballot Fraud

Several complaints are filed to the Texas Secretary of State Elections division on possible voting flaws in Webb County. In February Direct Action Texas, a state political advocacy organization, filed seven complaints to the state after finding possible irregularities that happened during the Webb County 2018 primary elections. “We got some information that there might be an issue in Webb County, so we went ahead and looked into it” Direct Action Texas, Director of Election Integrity, Christine Welborn said. According to Welborn, the complaint was about possible mail-in ballot fraud. The organization started an investigation that resulted in the discovery of more than 100 discrepancies. The irregularities include stacks of applications with the same handwriting but with no indication that someone helped fill them out. “We also found instances where the signatures did not match which can also indicate that there’s a forgery involved and so it was various different things that we found” Welborn said.

### REDISTRICTING

#### Daily Signal: Courts Should Stay Out of the ‘Political Thicket’ of Gerrymandering

The Supreme Court heard oral argument this week in two cases challenging congressional district lines drawn for partisan advantage. The question before the justices is whether state legislators violate the Constitution when they draw up district lines with politics in mind. Even the challengers in Tuesday’s two cases don’t claim that there should not be any politics involved in redistricting. So how much politics is acceptable, and how much politics is too much? It’s the political corollary of Goldilocks’ dilemma. The challengers in this case are trying to convince the Supreme Court that there is some nebulous line marking the boundary of “too much politics”—a boundary that exists nowhere in the text of the Constitution. While voters can vote legislators out of office if they don’t like what the legislators have done—such as drawing gerrymandered districts—they can’t vote federal judges out of office. That’s why the Framers of the Constitution committed the task of drawing up district lines to state legislatures with the supervision of Congress—and not to federal courts.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 23, 2019 10:51 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: West Virginia DMV a black hole for voter registrations! New Hampshire double-voter surrenders to the cops; Florida moving to remove illegal names from voter rolls

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[West Virginia DMV](#) a black hole for voter registrations! Meanwhile, [New Hampshire double-voter surrenders to the cops](#). Some states want honest elections; [Florida moving to remove illegal names](#) from voter rolls; [Texas cracking down hard](#) on vote fraud; while [Washington legislator can't fathom](#) state Democrats' lack of concern over vote fraud. Hmmm... [These stories and more!](#)

## LEAD

### Conservative Leaders Call on “Masters of the Universe” to Cut Ties with SPLC

A group of conservative leaders has called on the Silicon Valley Masters of the Universe to cut ties with the SPLC. Following reported that Twitter has severed ties with the SPLC, Bozell wrote in a statement: Two weeks ago, we issued open letters to the CEO's of Facebook, Twitter, Google and Amazon urging them to cut ties with the corrupt, anti-conservative, anti-Christian Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC). Since then, it's been reported that Twitter has severed ties with the organization. It's time they publicly confirm or deny this. If true, we commend them for taking action. The lack of a public response from Facebook, Google, and Amazon, however, indicates they continue to affiliate themselves with the hypocritical SPLC. The American public deserves an answer. We ask the CEOs of these tech giants again — will your company continue to align itself with an anti-conservative, anti-Christian organization accused of harboring systemic racism or will you do the right thing and publicly sever ties with them? We await your response.

## STATE

### Arizona: County Approves Money for Election Probe in Polygamous Town

An Arizona county on Monday approved money for an investigation of possible voter fraud in a remote community on the Arizona-Utah border where members of a polygamous sect kept control of a town council. The Mohave County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously in favor of the request by County Attorney Matt Smith for \$8,000 to hire a private investigator to look into whether people voted last year using addresses where they no longer live in Colorado City, Arizona.

### Florida: Lawmakers Seek to Purge Undocumented Immigrants from Voter Rolls

As several bills affecting the 2020 election are set to make a landing in the Legislature this year, a set aimed at ensuring non-citizens are removed from voter rolls is poised for a floor vote. Senate Bill 230 and House Bill 131 would require that each county supervisor of elections enters into an agreement with the clerk of the circuit court to receive, on a monthly basis, a list of potential jurors who have identified themselves as undocumented immigrants. Each supervisor would then have to compare the information with the voter roll. The bill also requires the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to continue to give a similar list to the election[s] supervisors each month, which they already do. “The purpose of this bill is to assist election offices and maintain the accuracy of the official voter registration list,” said bill sponsor Rep. Amber Mariano, a Hudson Republican.

### New Hampshire: Man Charged with Voting in N.H., Fla. During 2018 Election

A 77-year-old man surrendered himself to authorities Friday afternoon after an arrest warrant charged him with voting in both New Hampshire and Florida during last November's general election, officials said. Robert A. Bell faces one count of voting in more than one state [which is] prohibited [and] a class B felony, according to the New Hampshire attorney general's office. Authorities allege he knowingly checked in at a “checklist” in Atkinson and cast a New Hampshire ballot after having already cast a ballot in the same election in Florida.

**New Mexico: New Mexico Is the Latest State to Approve the National Popular Vote**

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New Mexico has now joined a growing number of states (14 plus D.C.) in passing legislation to give its five electoral votes to the presidential candidate who wins the national popular vote — regardless of which candidate wins the popular vote in New Mexico. Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham, a Democrat, signed House Bill 55 on April 3rd. National Popular Vote, the group that is pushing the interstate compact, says the compact would guarantee the presidency to the candidate who receives the largest number of votes (a plurality or more) in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The compact does not abolish the electoral system that is mandated in the U.S. Constitution, but it would undermine its intent. New Mexico is the fifteenth jurisdiction to join the NPV compact, in addition to California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Massachusetts, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont and Washington.

### **North Carolina: Mexican National Gets Light Sentence for Illegally Voting in Presidential Election**

A Mexican national was sentenced to one month in prison for illegally voting in the 2016 presidential election, a U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina announced Monday. Guadalupe Espinosa-Pena, 61, pleaded guilty to illegally voting in the 2016 general election in North Carolina. He was consequently sentenced to one month in prison followed by a supervised release for one year.

### **Pennsylvania: Foundation Claims PA is Violating Federal Voter Registration Law**

Two months after losing one federal court battle, a private foundation has launched another seeking to force Pennsylvania officials to release information on what they are doing to keep non-citizens from voting in state and federal elections. The Indianapolis, Indiana-based Public Interest Legal Foundation claims in its newly-filed U.S. Middle District Court suit that the state Department of State is violating the National Voter Registration Act by refusing to provide the information it seeks. The group, which is involved in immigrant rights disputes nationwide, contends it needs the information on Pennsylvania's efforts to combat voting by non-citizens to promote its mission to "keep voter rolls free of ineligible registrants." Testimony given by state officials during public hearings has shown there is a problem and that efforts are being made to ensure non-citizens aren't making it onto the state's voter rolls and into its voting booths, the foundation contends.

### **Tennessee: Ex-Deputy Who Bought Votes in Monroe Sheriff's Race Gets 5-Year Probation**

A former reserve deputy who recruited a marijuana dealer to buy votes for a Republican candidate for Monroe County sheriff in 2014 and then lied about it — repeatedly — is now banned from politicking for the next five years. U.S. District Judge Tom Varlan on Tuesday approved a five-year probationary sentence for Brian Keith "Wormy" Hodge for Hodge's role in a conspiracy to buy votes for Republican Randy White in White's successful 2014 campaign for sheriff in Monroe County.

### **Texas: Galveston County Registrar Refers 'Non-Citizens' for Voter Fraud Investigation**

Galveston County's top election official, currently being sued in federal court for removing naturalized citizens from voter rolls, has referred five "potential non-citizens" to the local district attorney's office to be investigated for possible voter fraud. Cheryl Johnson, the county's tax assessor and collector, made the referral to District Attorney Jack Roady weeks after reviewing her office's policy on processing jury summons lists that indicate a voter might not be a U.S. citizen. Johnson, who doubles as county registrar overseeing the county's voter rolls, will now use a person's voluntary declaration that they are a non-citizen on a jury summons exemption as a precursor for possible criminal investigation for voter fraud. The policy revision, dated March 12, states that if a potential non-citizen is flagged and does not submit proof of citizenship or voluntarily remove him- or herself from voter rolls within 35 days of notification from the registrar's office, the registrar will drop that person from the voter rolls and refer the matter to county prosecutors for investigation.

### **Texas: New Bill Seeks Harsher Punishment for Voter Fraud**

Right now, if you commit voter fraud, it's considered a class A misdemeanor, but a state bill could change that charge to a felony if it becomes law. Senate Bill 9 recently passed in the state Senate and will go to the House for review. "There's not much more fundamental to democracy than the right to vote. That's what this bill is about," said state Sen. Bryan Hughes, R-Mineola. SB 9 aims to create a more severe punishment for those that commit voter fraud. Hughes said it mainly does two things: 1. It creates a paper trail of how a person voted. 2. It increases penalties from a misdemeanor to a felony if someone commits voter fraud.

## Washington: Sen. Doug Ericksen Expresses Concern Over Potential for Election Fraud

A state legislator says he can't understand why Democrats don't want to combat potential voter fraud. After a very close election in our state, ballot chasers from campaigns contact people who submitted problem ballots in hopes of changing or solidifying results before certification. "An individual could go and find out every single person, this is all public information, make a request to find out all of the people who did not sign their ballot properly or whose signature did not match." Senator Doug Ericksen says the ballot chasers or others can help the voters sign affidavits and serve as witnesses to get the votes counted, but he says that process is ripe for fraud. Ericksen proposed an amendment to a Democratic bill, in order to require those witnesses to provide printed names, addresses and phone numbers, but Democrats rejected it. "To me that's mind-boggling. So now, coming into the next election, everybody in Washington State knows, because of my speech, how you can go out and commit election fraud."

## West Virginia: Division of Motor Vehicles Is Losing Voter Registrations

State officials say the West Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles is losing voter registrations, but they don't know how many and for how long. Donald Kersey, general counsel for Secretary of State Mac Warner's office, said the DMV sends the Secretary of State's office a daily list of voter registrations, but the secretary's office estimate several registrations are lost per day because of technical problems at the DMV – "a systematic error," he said. The problem, Kersey said, has been ongoing at least since the 2018 general election. During a five-day test period in January, 37 people, who were flagged as registering at the DMV, did not have their registration received by the Secretary of State.

## REDISTRICTING

### North Carolina: Senate Bill Introduced to Reform Redistricting Process

The process of drawing district lines in North Carolina has seen its fair share of criticism. Now, three democratic senators have introduced a bill that they hope will change that. A bill was introduced Thursday that would eliminate politically charged gerrymandering -- the process of dividing a region in a way that gives one political party an unfair advantage. Regular voters would have the power to draw district lines. It puts voters, not politicians, at the center of a fair and open process to draw our confessional legislative districts," said Jennifer Bremer, League of Women Voters of North Carolina. The bill creates a 15-person citizens' redistricting commission. Anyone could apply but there are strict requirements. Candidates cannot have any affiliation with politics, but they must be registered voters.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 8:04 PM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: White House requests Supreme Court grant expedited review of census citizenship question. Democrat laundry list of election reforms – legalizing ballot fraud?

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White House requests [Supreme Court grant expedited review](#) of census citizenship question. [Democrat laundry list of election reforms](#) – legalizing ballot fraud? [Arizona wary of vote harvesting](#), while Colorado considering [abolishing the Electoral College](#). [Florida looking for a new Secretary of State](#); [Iowa voter ID law getting judicial review](#). [Ohio county election official fired](#) for not counting over 6,000 early votes; but nearly [100,000 illegal votes were counted in Texas](#). Redistricting activity picks up as [March 26 Supreme Court oral argument](#) approaches. [All this in this week's EIB](#).

## LEAD

### Trump Administration Asks Supreme Court to Review Census Citizenship Case

The Trump administration is asking the Supreme Court to hear a case on including a citizenship question on the 2020 census. Last week, federal Judge Jesse M. Furman of the Southern District of New York ruled the Census Bureau could not ask about citizenship. The judge ruled the question would lead to undercounting illegal residents and Hispanics. On Tuesday, the Trump administration moved to bypass the appeals courts, and take the issue straight to the Supreme Court, given the urgency to prepare the U.S. Census. The case would normally be appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit. "Time is of the essence," Hans von Spakovsky, senior legal fellow with The Heritage Foundation, told The Daily Signal. "It takes a long lead time to print the millions of census forms." He noted bypassing the regular appeals process is a very rare request and very rarely granted.

## FEDERAL

### WSJ: Harvesting Democratic Votes

Democrats in Congress are making election reform their top legislative priority, and we've criticized it as a majority protection act. To understand why, consider that Democrats are trying to do for the country what they've done with election laws in California. The biggest score for Democrats is a separate 2016 law pushed heavily by unions that legalized what's known as ballot harvesting. This allows any person—union activists, canvassers, community organizers, campaign staff—to show up at homes and collect mail ballots on behalf of voters. Fred Whitaker, chairman of the Orange County GOP, has estimated that an extraordinary 250,000 mail-votes were dropped off on Election Day thanks to harvesting. All of this is carefully designed to enhance Democratic turnout. California law also creates opportunity for fraud and coercion. Voters in a 2017 special election for an open seat in the California state Assembly reported activists harassed them at their doors to fill out ballots for specific candidates and hand them over. This creates opportunities for harvesters to "help" voters complete their ballots, or even pay to finish them, and it's easy for the unscrupulous to lose ballots they think may go for the wrong candidate. This is why ballot harvesting is illegal in many states, or at least limited to drop-offs by family members.

### Washington Examiner: Nancy Pelosi is Trying to Federalize California's Bad Election Laws

Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., has made a gargantuan overhaul of election law, campaign finance, and ethics rules the top priority of House Democrats. Contrast this move with the Republicans in 2017 — the Democratic Party and its allies understand there is a difference between winning elections versus big idea debates. H.R. 1, her proposal, is not likely to clear the Senate, but that's not the point. It is a marketing document intended to broach the idea of federalizing some progressive state policies while trying to squeeze more conservative locales into adopting them as well. Taken as a whole, the only saving grace to the bill is that it does not contain a prosecution shield for noncitizens who are automatically registered to vote — something California has done. This bill also comes with the benefit of already exhibiting critical failures in the laboratories of bad ideas, like California and others. But automatic voter registration and relaxed voter roll maintenance standards are not a threat to the proponents, if they know how to massage

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the chaos before a big election.

## **STATES**

### **Arizona: Senate Committee Votes to Ban Voters from Dropping off Early Ballots**

Nearly a quarter million Arizonans who dropped off their early ballots at polling places on Election Day in November would lose that ability in future years under a bill that passed its first legislative hurdle in a Senate committee on Thursday. The Senate Judiciary Committee passed three election-related bills sponsored by Sen. Michelle Ugenti-Rita, R-Scottsdale. One of those bills, Senate Bill 1046, would require voters who receive early ballots in the mail to return them only by mail, rather than bringing them to polling places before or on Election Day. People who don't mail in their ballots would be able to vote at a polling place but would have to wait in line and go through the same process as other in-person voters. The committee passed SB1046 on a 4-3 party-line vote, with Republicans supporting it and Democrats in opposition.

### **California: Former City Council Candidate Pleads No Contest to Voter Fraud**

A candidate for Bakersfield's city council in last year's election has pleaded no contest to fraudulent voting in connection with his 2016 run for mayor, according to court records. Gilberto De La Torre stood accused of fraudulently signing and submitting his brother's and another person's voter mail-in ballots during the mayoral election. He entered the no contest plea late last month, and in June is scheduled for a hearing in which the charge will be dismissed as long as he abides by the terms of the agreement.

### **Colorado: Colorado Should Steer Clear of the Partisan Push for a National Popular Vote**

The Colorado legislature is considering making Colorado the next state to award its Electoral College votes to the presidential candidate who gets the most votes nationwide. This is a blatantly partisan attempt to abolish the Electoral College through non-constitutional means. It should be stopped dead in its tracks. Of all the delusions in American politics, none are more seductive than majority rule. The latest symptom of our infatuation with majority rule is the "National Popular Vote" movement, or NPV. States who sign on for NPV agree to give their presidential electoral votes to whomever earns the most votes nationwide, regardless of the results within the state itself. The contract takes effect when states with at least 270 electoral votes (a majority of the electoral college) sign on. So far, 11 states and the District of Columbia, with 172 total votes, have agreed. Colorado Senate Bill SB19-042 would sign Colorado on to the deal. It's not hard to see the blatantly partisan nature of the NPV movement. Who has signed on? The District of Columbia, where no Republican has ever won an electoral vote.

### **Florida: Florida Secretary of State Resigns after Blackface Photos Surface**

Florida's newly appointed secretary of state resigned after years-old photos of him wearing blackface emerged. The photos were obtained by the Tallahassee Democrat and shown to Gov. Ron DeSantis' office Thursday, according to the publication. The governor said in a statement hours later he had accepted Michael Ertel's resignation. The photos showed Ertel dressed as a Hurricane Katrina victim in blackface at a Halloween party in 2005, two months after the hurricane hit New Orleans. "There's nothing I can say," Ertel said when asked about it.

### **Iowa: Iowa Judge Strikes Down Part of Voter ID Law**

An Iowa district court judge on Thursday struck down part of a voter identification law that made it more difficult for county auditors to tally absentee ballots submitted with missing information. Polk County District Court Judge Karen Romano said the provision that blocked county auditors from consulting a statewide voter database to fill in missing information on a voter's absentee ballot violated existing state law. Other parts of the voter identification law, passed by the Republican-controlled state legislature in 2017, still stand. But the rest of the law faces other legal challenges.

### **New Hampshire: Dems Denied Access to Voter Database in Lawsuit over NH Election Law**

The state Supreme Court ruled on Thursday that the secretary of state does not have to provide a detailed voter database to the N.H. Democratic Party, the League of Women Voters and other plaintiffs in a lawsuit challenging Senate Bill 3, the new law on voter verification. A lower court had ordered release of the database to the plaintiffs, who claimed they needed certain information from it to make their case. "We

conclude that the database is exempt from disclosure by statute, and we therefore vacate the trial court's order," the unanimous order of the five justices said. The case challenging SB 3 has been working its way through the courts for the past two years. The law, enacted in 2017, changed the procedures for proof of domicile when registering to vote. A trial in the case is expected to get under way later this year.

### **Ohio: Miami Co. Elections Director Fired after 6,000 Votes go Uncounted**

The Miami County Board of Elections voted Tuesday night to fire elections Director Beverly Kendall after state officials discovered that over 6,000 early votes went uncounted from the November 6 general election. Board members voted 3-1 to terminate Kendall, effective immediately. The Secretary of State's Office contacted the Board of Elections about the issue involving 6,288 votes on Dec. 20 after reviewing the election results. It was concluded that an incorrect shutoff of an early voting machine was to blame. Fisher said he and the board were re-assured all votes had been counted. Fisher said it wasn't until the Secretary of State's Office contacted them, that they realized the votes were not tallied. Members also voted to start an investigation into how the uncounted votes could have gone undetected for so long. They said there were various steps including an audit, where the issue should have been detected. Board of Elections Chairman Dave Fisher says the missing votes did not affect the outcome of any races or issues, and no recounts were triggered, but they did vote to approve an amendment to election results to reflect the corrected totals.

### **Texas: Texas' Top Election Official Says Nearly 100,000 Voters Aren't U.S. Citizens**

The Texas Secretary of State says nearly 100,000 people on the state's voter rolls are not U.S. citizens. In an advisory today, Secretary of State David Whitley told voter registrars that the Texas Department of Public Safety has identified as many as 95,000 non-U.S. citizens who have a registration record attached to their name. The agency estimates as many as 58,000 of those people have voted "in one or more Texas elections." The Secretary of State's office notes that, while it can't enforce election law, it has shared the list of voters with the Texas attorney general's office and registrars across the state. In a statement after the announcement, Attorney General Ken Paxton said his office will work with the secretary's office to prosecute cases of voter fraud. "Every single instance of illegal voting threatens democracy in our state and deprives individual Texans of their voice," Paxton said. "We're honored to have partnered with the Texas Secretary of State's office in the past on voter initiatives and we will spare no effort in assisting with these troubling cases."

### **Texas: Illegal Immigrant Voted Using Fake ID, Report Says**

An illegal immigrant living in Texas who used a stolen ID to vote at his local polling place received a prison sentence Thursday, according to reports. The suspect, identified as Enrique Salazar Ortiz, of Elmendorf, near San Antonio, will serve nearly three years. Salazar Ortiz, a native of Mexico, was convicted of making a false statement on a passport application, unlawful voting by an undocumented immigrant and aggravated identity theft, the San Antonio Express-News reported.

### **Virginia: Voter ID Laws Remain Widely Popular as Governor Northam Seeks Repeal**

During his "State of the Commonwealth" address earlier this month, Governor Ralph Northam (D) announced in his 2019 legislation package that he would work with the Democratic caucus in the Virginia General Assembly to repeal the law requiring voters to present a photo identification at the ballot box. Although progressives believe they hold the moral high ground insofar as they are "increasing access to the voting booth," what they fail to believe is that proposals to rescind the laws are widely unpopular across the U.S. Currently, Virginia is classified as a "strict photo ID" state, along with Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Wisconsin.

### **Virginia: Bill to Verify Voter Citizenship Advances out of Committee**

When Senator Mark Peake (R-Lynchburg) first ran for office in 2015, he said Virginia needed more lawmakers focused on solving problems with common sense. This session, he's fighting for a bill which he says does exactly that. Peake introduced SB1038 to require voter registrars throughout Virginia to electronically verify the name, date of birth, and social security number of each voter against existing federal databases to confirm that every registered voter is a citizen of Virginia and the United States. Calling it a "very simple bill" and "very common sense", Peake urged the committee to pass the measure, which he said would strengthen election integrity in Virginia and help fight voter fraud. "I just kind of would like to make sure that people who are registered to vote in Virginia are actually Virginia citizens and the



people they say they are,” he said. Peake noted his legislation would cost less than a million dollars, contrasting the fiscal impact of the bill with the much larger sums of money spent every year on campaigns in Virginia.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Maryland: Supreme Court Sets Date to Hear Maryland Congressional Gerrymandering Case**

The U.S. Supreme court has set a date to hear oral arguments in Maryland’s high-profile case centered on gerrymandering in the congressional voting districts map. The Supreme Court justices are scheduled March 26 to hear attorneys’ arguments and provide Maryland officials with guidance on how to proceed with a court-ordered redrawing of the congressional map, according to a schedule made public Friday. In November, a panel of federal judges found that Maryland’s map for the 6th Congressional District, which includes portions of Montgomery County into Western Maryland, was drawn heavily in favor of Democrats. The case was brought by seven Republican plaintiffs who argued the map diluted their representation and violated their First Amendment rights. The case was brought by seven Republican plaintiffs who argued the map diluted their representation and violated their First Amendment rights.

### **Michigan: Settlement Search by Michigan Secretary of State Raises Concerns from Michigan Republicans**

Michigan Secretary of State search for a settlement in a federal lawsuit claiming partisan gerrymandering in some districts has some Republicans raising ethical concerns. Jocelyn Benson, sworn in as Michigan’s first Democratic Secretary of State since 1994, wants to settle a lawsuit against the state fielded by the League of Women Voters of Michigan. The suit, originally filed against former Republican Secretary of State Ruth Johnson, claims gerrymandering of 34 districts in the state helped Republicans garner control. The Michigan Republican Party said the move is not about saving taxpayer dollars.

“We think this is an obvious partisan power grab by Jocelyn Benson along with former Michigan Democratic Party Chair Mark Brewer to basically redraw our state’s maps to favor democrats in our state’s 2020 election,” Michigan Republican Party Deputy Communications Director Tony Zammit said.

Zammit argued that Benson and Brewer were working together to draw the lines. Brewer is an attorney involved with the plaintiffs in the case.

### **Virginia: Court-Picked Redistricting Maps Could Favor Virginia Democrats**

Democrats could have a better shot picking up seats in this year’s legislative elections under a redistricting map that a U.S. District Court has selected for the Virginia House of Delegates. If enacted, the new map would place at least five Republican delegates in districts where a majority of voters chose Democrat Barack Obama in the 2012 presidential election — including the 66th House District represented by Republican Speaker of the House Kirk Cox. Democratic districts affected by the maps appear less likely to change hands based on those election results. In a statement issued shortly after the court’s decision, Cox said that the maps chosen by the court aimed to give Democrats an advantage. “The (maps) selected by the Court target senior Republicans, myself included, without a substantive basis in the law,” Cox said.

### **Wisconsin: Court Delays Wisconsin's Gerrymandering Trial for at Least Three Months**

In a small setback for Democrats, a federal court Wednesday pushed back a gerrymandering trial slated for April, possibly until July. The panel of judges ruled, 2-1, to delay the trial until after the U.S. Supreme Court decides cases over election maps for North Carolina and Maryland. Those decisions are expected

by June. "Holding a trial and taking full briefing in these cases before the Supreme Court decides (the other cases) would almost certainly lead to a significant waste of resources for the parties and the court," the majority wrote. The judges agreed Wednesday to put off trial but said they would allow discovery to continue in the case so a trial could be held soon after the Supreme Court renders its decisions. A date for a potential trial will be set later, but the judges suggested starting one July 22.

**The American Civil Rights Union**

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 06, 2018 10:34 AM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: Why Do Democrats Pretend Voter Fraud Doesn't Exist?; A Senate Candidate Tells Hunters They May Lose Hunting Licenses if They Vote in North Dakota; A Court Upholds Arizona Ballot Harvesting Ban Again; Is Voter Registration Too Much to Expect?

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**Election Day Special:** [Why do Democrats](#) pretend voter fraud doesn't exist? Yes, a [Senate Candidate actually tells](#) hunters they may lose their hunting license if they vote in North Dakota. [National Review asks](#) if voter registration is really too much to expect from citizens? A federal appeals court [upholds ban](#) on Arizona harvesting of mail ballots, again. Read all about the latest in the [EIB](#).

## LEAD

### Investors Business Daily: Why Do Democrats Pretend Voter Fraud Doesn't Exist?

As people go to vote on Tuesday, they will be counting on the system working properly. Which means only those eligible to vote will do so. Unfortunately, as recent cases show, that's not always the case.

The Heritage Foundation has a database that now includes 1,165 cases of election fraud across 47 states. More than 1,000 of them resulted in criminal convictions. Yet there are those — mostly Democrats and mainstream journalists — who continue to insist that voter fraud is a myth. When shown concrete examples, the response is usually "well, it's not widespread." But that reflects a fundamental misunderstanding of elections. You don't need "widespread" voter fraud to change election outcomes, just small-scale efforts targeted on tight or consequential elections.

## FEDERAL

### Fox News: CNN's Toobin Accused of Advancing Racist Argument in Fight Over ID Laws

Speaking to Fox News' "Tucker Carlson Tonight" on Thursday, Kansas Republican gubernatorial candidate Kris Kobach accused CNN legal analyst Jeffrey Toobin of advancing a "racist argument" -- just one day after Toobin charged that Kobach wanted to "stop black people and poor people from voting."

### National Review: Is It Too Much to Expect Voters to Register? The Left Thinks So

The radical Left is making yet another absurd claim: that requiring voter registration is a "voter suppression" tool. Registration is essential to assure the integrity of elections. It allows election officials to verify the eligibility and identity of voters. It also enables them to make sure they will have enough ballots in polling places that use paper ballots — and that's the majority of jurisdictions across the U.S. Automatic voter registration would register all ineligible individuals. No evidence exists that eliminating voter registration will increase turnout.

### Supreme Court Allows Court Challenge on Census Citizenship Question to Go Forward

The Supreme Court is allowing a trial over the decision to add a citizenship question to the 2020 census to go forward over the Trump administration's objection. The justices' issued a brief order rejecting the administration's request to postpone the trial, set to begin Monday in New York. More than a dozen states and big cities, among others, have sued over Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross' decision to add a citizenship question to the census for the first time since 1950. Last week, the justices blocked the questioning of Ross in advance of the trial, but allowed other preparations to continue.

## STATES

### Arizona: Court Upholds Law Barring Collection of Mail-In Ballots

An appeals court has upheld a 2016 Arizona law banning groups from collecting mail-in ballots from voters

and delivering them. The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in a challenge filed by Democratic activist Rivko Knox, who said the law has caused her to stop delivering ballots for voters who request assistance. The appeals court rejected Knox's arguments that the statute violates her free speech and due process rights and is trumped by federal laws governing postal deliveries. The law bans anyone but caregivers or family members from delivering a completed early ballot to a polling place. Both parties have used ballot collection to boost turnout during elections by going door to door and asking voters if they have completed their mail-in ballots.

### **California: DMV 'Motor Voter' System May Harm Election Integrity in California**

Many in California are blaming the high level of voter fraud on the carelessness of state politicians. At issue is the state's new "motor voter" system. Under this law, people are automatically registered to vote after completing a transaction with the Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV), if they are deemed eligible and don't decline. Their names are then added to the voter rolls, and it is the job of the Secretary of State to review the rolls and remove the names of those who are not eligible. A slew of registration mistakes have been announced, prompting Secretary of State Alex Padilla to direct the DMV to add an additional layer of manual review before transferring people's names to the voter rolls. "

### **California: Voter Fraud Case Filed After 2017 Riverside Investigation**

A Riverside man has been charged with voting twice in the 2016 June primary as well as that year's presidential election, an action called "an honest mistake" in a house where three generations of men with the same first and last name live and receive voting material, the man's father said. Investigators say Richard Anthony Hamilton, 22, registered twice, once in 2014 and again in 2016 — not under different names, but using two different dates of birth. "It appeared that Richard voted twice in the 2016 General and Presidential Primary Election" by using both his true date of birth and the incorrect one. Both votes were submitted by mail-in ballot, the arrest declaration, filed in October, said.

### **District of Columbia: District of Columbia Could Let 16-Year-Olds Vote for President**

The Washington, D.C., City Council is preparing to vote on a bill to lower the voting age to 16 for all elections, both local and federal. WTOP-FM reports the bill won 3-0 approval in the Judiciary and Public Safety committee Thursday and will get a final vote before the full council this month. The 26th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guarantees citizens 18 and older the right to vote, but scholars have said it doesn't prevent a state, or in this case, the nation's capital, from setting a lower age.

### **Georgia: Judge: Georgia Must Ease Rule for Voters Proving Citizenship**

Georgia must make it easier for voters flagged as potential noncitizens to prove their U.S. citizenship at the polls, a federal judge ruled Friday in an injunction ordering the state to change its procedure just four days before Election Day. The injunction by U.S. District Court Judge Eleanor L. Ross addresses a specific issue that arose from a broader lawsuit by civil rights groups who in October filed a broader challenge to Georgia's "exact match" verification process. The judge ruled the state unfairly burdens about 3,100 possible voters whose registration was flagged for citizenship issues, because only a deputy registrar is allowed to clear them to vote a regular ballot when the voters show proof of citizenship at the polls. She ruled that Georgia must immediately start allowing poll managers, in addition to deputy registrars, to clear flagged voters who show proof of citizenship.

### **New Jersey: Lawmaker Says Hoboken Probe Proves Need for Stiff Penalties for Voter Fraud**

A Republican lawmaker from Middlesex County is using the federal probe into an alleged cash-for-votes scheme in Hoboken to propose stiffer penalties for voter fraud. In a statement, state Sen. Sam Thompson said the claims in the indictments, which allege developer Frank Raia directed associates to promise voters \$50 in exchange for their votes in 2013's Hoboken elections, are an "affront to our democracy" that must be stopped.

### **North Dakota: Judge Rules Native Americans in North Dakota Must Comply with Voter ID Law**

A federal judge has ruled that Native Americans in North Dakota must comply with the state's recently tightened voter ID law. At the same time, U.S. District Court Judge Daniel Hovland acknowledged that the law had raised concerns. Supreme Court declined to overturn the law. Hovland denied a motion to exempt Native Americans in certain counties from complying with the law.

## North Dakota: Heitkamp Spreads False Claim Hunters Could Lose License if They Vote

Senator Heidi Heitkamp appeared to endorse a false claim from the state's Democratic Party suggesting that citizens would lose their out-of-state license to hunt if they vote in this year's election. "Voting means you are a resident, it means you pay taxes here, it means that if you want a residential hunting license in Minnesota, it means you're not going to get that, if you vote here," Heitkamp told reporters..

## REDISTRICTING

### North Carolina: Judges Find Four Wake House Districts Unconstitutional

Four Wake County House districts must be redrawn before the 2020 elections, a three-judge panel said Friday, finding the existing district lines unconstitutional. The ruling won't change the lines for Tuesday's legislative elections, but the panel said the General Assembly must redraw the districts no later than the end of its next regular session or July 1 of next year, whichever comes first.

### Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania GOP Dealt 3rd Redistricting Loss in US Courts

The U.S. Supreme Court is dismissing another challenge by top Republican lawmakers from Pennsylvania to the legality of new congressional district boundaries imposed by the state's highest court in a gerrymandering case. The high court denied the case by House Speaker Mike Turzai and Senate President Pro Tempore Joe Scarnati. It's the third time the nation's highest court has rejected such a GOP effort.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2018 9:14 AM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** EIB: Why the Refusal To Accept Results in Florida and Georgia? Voters Concerned With Integrity of Elections; Impact of 2018 on Future Redistricting

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Why is there a refusal to accept election results in [Florida and Georgia](#)? The [Supreme Court agrees](#) to fast track a hearing concerning citizenship census question. Find out the [impact on redistricting](#) from the 2018 mid-term elections. In Florida, [voters question integrity](#) of election system and Palm Beach [blames old technology](#) for recount failures. Read more in the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).

## LEAD

### Washington Examiner: Why Democrats in Georgia and Florida Are Refusing to Accept the Election Outcome

The Democratic campaign of delegitimizing elections, breaking the law, and refusing to accept election outcomes, isn't about stealing the election that just happened. It's about kicking off the next election campaign. Democrats have looked at President Trump's success and decided that breaking all the rules is the path to victory. They have apparently decided that republican norms and democratic niceties are holding them back. Only with such a no-holds-barred fighter, they believe, can they beat the Republicans' own norm-breaker-in-chief, Donald Trump.

## FEDERAL

### Law360: Supreme Court Will Hear Case Over Ross' Census Deposition

The U.S. Supreme Court on Friday granted the federal government's petition to review a New York federal court ruling greenlighting the deposition of Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross regarding the Trump administration's decision to include a question about citizenship status on the 2020 census. A brief, one-page order, the high court instructed the U.S. Department of Justice to file its brief challenging the decision by Dec. 17. Oral arguments in the case are scheduled for Feb. 19, according to the order.

### Conservative Review: Let's Cut to the Chase and Have the Judges Vote for Us

The outcome of elections, like every other national question, is now determined by an assorted sample of unelected federal judges. So why even have elections? At this rate, we should just ask the judges to vote for us. Courts exist to adjudicate cases under the law. If we have a dispute over an issue that determines the outcome of the broadest public policy, cultural, and civic questions, we go to a legislature. But now the judges are monopolizing the ultimate political question – election law. They are vitiating state law and determining the outcome of all elections – in favor of one party, of course. What we are seeing in Georgia and Florida is Democrats using the liberal courts to mandate that states accept ballots that are either tardy or otherwise invalid pursuant to state law. Now a judge has ordered the recount in Florida to be extended.

### Virginia Mercury: Voter Registration Through the DMV Can Be an Imperfect Process

Every state offers voter registration at places like the DMV because of the 1993 National Voter Registration Act, or "motor-voter law." But that law didn't establish a uniform process for states or provide guidance on how to do it, said Trey Grayson, a former Kentucky secretary of state who now works as a lawyer and lobbyist on voter registration procedures. "On one hand, voters all across the country have been able to vote or update their voting registration, which is great," Grayson said. "The challenge is that the DMV's job is not to register voters."

### Daily Caller: Democrat's Voter Fraud Exposed and How to Stop It

On the Friday video edition of the Daily Caller Podcast we talk with Hans Von Spakovsky from the Heritage Foundation, one of the nation's foremost experts on election law and election fraud. With what Democrats are attempting to do in Florida and Georgia, it's important to understand all the tricks and traps the left

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uses to steal elections. Hans was a member of President Trump's commission on voter fraud, the one blue states refused to cooperate with because, they said, voter fraud is a hoax and rather than provide data on the matter, they simply took their ball and went home.

### **American Thinker: Pass Legislation for Election Integrity Now**

The 2018 midterm elections have proven dramatic, and in several key races, including for governor, Senate, and the House of Representatives, the outcome has not yet been determined. Both Republicans and Democrats -- depending on the race -- have called into question the integrity of the vote and have demanded recounts and, at times, have gone to court asking that the integrity of the election be upheld. At present, as good as our election system may be, there are many opportunities for activity that could result in close elections being called for the wrong candidate. Congress must act immediately and expeditiously to better protect our elections and democracy.

## **STATES**

### **California: Court Documents Reveal New Details in 3 Cases of Alleged Voter Fraud**

Day is over but three individuals are facing charges of voter fraud. The Kern County District Attorney's office charged 28-year-old John Gerald Byrne, 29-year-old Gilberto De La Torre and 68-year-old Fernando Osorio. According to court documents, when Byrne was confronted with the information, he said he "might have signed it" and "accidentally mailed it back in" referring to his ballot. Investigators say Fernando Osorio claimed he was not a United States citizen on a jury summons questionnaire, but he turned his voter registration and signed it affirming he as a citizen. The DA's office says a misdemeanor conviction on a charge of this type can result in a \$1,000 fine and up to six months in jail.

### **Florida: Florida Lawmakers Expected to Dig into Election Laws**

Florida lawmakers will be asked to tackle how elections are run, after the chaos of this year's elections led to a federal judge calling the state's process "the laughingstock of the world." Incoming Senate President Bill Galvano, who will take the reins of the chamber, said that he expects lawmakers to review various aspects of the elections process, from the handling of vote-by-mail ballots to certification dates. Galvano, R-Bradenton, said he's heard from a number of senators about the issue and that he wants to revisit aspects of state elections laws. He pointed to problems beyond the current election cycle, which has included troubled recounts in races for U.S. Senate, governor and agriculture commissioner and three legislative seats. The goal, he said, is to keep future elections from "judicial intervention."

### **Florida: Democrats Planned to Use Altered Forms to Fix Mail Ballots Across Florida After Deadline**

A day after Florida's election left top state races too close to call, a Democratic party leader directed staffers and volunteers to share altered election forms with voters to fix signature problems on absentee ballots after the state's deadline. The altered forms surfaced in Broward, Santa Rosa, Citrus and Okaloosa counties and were reported to federal prosecutors to review for possible election fraud as Florida counties completed a required recount in three top races. But an email obtained by the USA TODAY NETWORK - Florida shows that Florida Democrats were organizing a broader statewide effort beyond those counties to give voters the altered forms to fix improper absentee ballots after the Nov. 5 deadline. Democratic party leaders provided staffers with copies of a form, known as a "cure affidavit," that had been modified to include an inaccurate Nov. 8 deadline.

### **Florida: Soros-Financed Groups Help Brenda Snipes Prevail over Rick Scott in Court Battle**

A coalition of organizations financed by billionaire activist George Soros successfully intervened in a lawsuit against Broward County Elections Supervisor Brenda Snipes in a case involving ballots counted by Snipes' office after the official deadline had passed. Notably, the interveners opposing Scott in the case against Snipes were the League of Women Voters and Brennan Center for Justice at the New York University Law School, two organizations financed by Soros. Helping in the case was Common Cause, which is also financed by Soros's Open Society Foundations. An intervener allows a non-party to join an ongoing lawsuit.

### **Florida: Voters Question Integrity of Election System**

"We will be in a recount situation here in the state of Florida for one or more of these contests here in the

next couple of days," said David Stafford, Supervisor of Elections for Escambia County. "This is to my knowledge is the first statewide recount we've had using these new deadlines and laws and putting these new things in place," said Paul Lux, Supervisor of Elections for Santa Rosa County. All counties should have their unofficial results by Saturday. "If the difference in one or more races is half a percentage point or less a machine recount is ordered," said Stafford. As the call for recounts comes, more ballots are still showing up. Many people in Florida have the same concern. "If thousands of ballots were held back, why weren't they counted last week?" said Wayne Albers.

### **Florida: Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections Susan Bucher Blames Technology for Recount Concerns**

Supervisor of Elections for Palm Beach County Susan Bucher said technology will be to blame if the county is unable to meet Thursday's state recount deadline. Recounts are now required in three key races: U.S. senate, governor and Florida agriculture commissioner, along with house of representatives District 89. However, the technology used in Palm Beach County only allows for one race at a time to be reviewed.

### **Indiana: State Police Impounding All Voting Materials Related to 15th Indiana House District**

Party leaders were dismayed Saturday over a GOP move to contest Democrat Chris Chyung's 86-vote victory Tuesday over state Rep. Hal Slager in the 15th House District after state police impounded voting records late Friday. "We have to get control of the records and evaluate whether it goes to a recount or not," Slager said.

### **New York: Demanding Answers - How Can NYC's Messy Voting System Be Fixed?**

From long lines to broken voting machines, election day was a mess this week at the polls – but will anything change next time? CBS2's Andrea Grymes demands answers on who is responsible for making improvements. Voting machines completely went down at some polling sites, causing general confusion about a two-page ballot. Mayor Bill de Blasio places a lot of blame at the feet of the New York City Board of Elections. "The Board of Elections simply can't function, cannot do its job," he said.

There's plenty of blame to go around at the city and state level. Michael Ryan is the executive director of the city Board of Elections that some criticize for the way its membership is appointed: 10 commissioners, two from each borough, recommended by both political parties.

### **North Carolina: 35,500 NC Voters Used 'Provisional' Ballots, but Many of Their Votes Won't Count**

Provisional ballots are offered to any voter who doesn't have their registration on file when they show up to vote. People are also offered provisional ballots if they go to the wrong polling place to cast a ballot. In 2016, there were more than 60,000 provisional ballots. Almost 22,000 of these provisional ballots were fully counted, state elections board spokesman Pat Gannon said, and about 5,200 were partially counted. That means about 34,000 ballots were not counted.

### **Pennsylvania: 'Human error' Leads to Vote-Counting Errors — County Votes to Hire Election Lawyer to Oversee Next Week's Canvass**

Crawford County Clerk Don Pyle said results from five of the county's 16 polling locations were counted twice, doubling votes for each candidate and resulting in inaccurate results. He said the mistake was due to human error, not mechanical. "The polling places make data cards that we insert into software that counts the votes," he said. "The person inputting the data got interrupted and put five of them in twice. Some precincts were reporting a turnout of 110 percent," he said. Pyle said the county does not implement dual control when counting ballots. "Part of the reason the software didn't catch it is that one precinct is split between two polling stations, so it doesn't register as redundant," he said.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Maryland: Maryland Attorney General Appeals Judges' Order to Redraw Congressional Districts, Seeks Supreme Court Ruling**

Maryland Attorney General Brian Frosh announced Thursday that he is appealing a federal ruling that threw out the state's congressional map for the 6th District after determining that Democratic officials



unconstitutionally drew the boundary to diminish Republican influence. The Democratic attorney general, acting against the wishes of Republican Gov. Larry Hogan, notified the U.S. District Court in Baltimore Thursday that he will contest last week's order that the state redraw the map in time for the 2020 election. A Hogan spokeswoman criticized Frosh for an action that will further drag out debate over a district widely viewed as one of the most heavily gerrymandered in the nation.

### **Washington Times: Midterm Elections Reveal Effects of Gerrymandered Districts**

With an election looming, courts earlier this year declared congressional districts in two states to be unconstitutional partisan gerrymanders. One map was redrawn. The other was not. The sharply contrasting outcomes that resulted on Election Day in Pennsylvania and North Carolina illustrate the importance of how political lines are drawn - and the stakes for the nation because that process helps determine which party controls Congress. Pennsylvania flipped from a solid Republican congressional delegation to one evenly split under a map redrawn by court order, contributing to the Democratic takeover of the U.S. House. Despite an almost even split in the popular vote, North Carolina's congressional delegation remained overwhelmingly Republican under a map drawn by the GOP. Partisan gerrymandering has been carried out by both Democrats and Republicans throughout U.S. history. But an Associated Press statistical analysis based on 2016 election data found that more states had Republican-tilted districts than Democratic ones. Some of the largest GOP congressional advantages were in North Carolina and Pennsylvania, where Republicans fully controlled redistricting after the 2010 Census.

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**From:** JW Tipsheet <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 11, 2019 5:14 PM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** El Paso a Major Smuggling Route for Mexican Drugs, Illegal Aliens, Islamic Terrorists

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October 3, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Mornings on the Mall” on WMAL to discuss the 288 newly uncovered Hillary Clinton emails containing classified information.

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### Tom Fitton: Giuliani Helped Prove Mueller Investigation is Political

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Lou Dobbs Tonight” on the Fox Business Network to discuss Trump attorney Rudy Giuliani’s statement that Special Counsel Robert Mueller won’t indict President Trump.

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**From:** JW Corruption Chronicles <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 11, 2019 11:48 AM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** El Paso a Major Smuggling Route for Mexican Drugs, Illegal Aliens, Islamic Terrorists

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## CORRUPTION CHRONICLES

### El Paso a Major Smuggling Route for Mexican Drugs, Illegal Aliens, Islamic Terrorists

President Donald Trump's El Paso visit is a great opportunity to point out that the west Texas city is a rats' nest of law enforcement corruption, a major smuggling route into the U.S for Mexican drugs, illegal immigrants and Islamic terrorists and the headquarters of a sophisticated narco-terror ring operated by two of the FBI's most wanted.

While local officials promote it as one of America's safest cities, Judicial Watch has exposed in a years-long investigation the disturbing reality gripping the municipality that sits along the Rio Grande across famously violent Ciudad Juárez, Mexico.

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) says El Paso is a [major hub](#) for Mexican opioids and methamphetamine enroute to the rest of the United States. Just a few days ago U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) released [figures](#) showing that the El Paso sector had an astounding 1,588% increase in illegal immigrant apprehensions during the first month of 2019 compared to the first month of 2018. Most are coming from Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador.

Drugs and Central Americans aren't the only things being smuggled in through El Paso. Islamic terrorists are also making it into the U.S. with the help of Mexican drug cartels. Judicial Watch exposed an operation in which Mexican drug cartels smuggle foreigners from countries with terrorist links into a small rural town near El Paso by using remote farm roads—rather than interstates—to elude the Border Patrol and other law enforcement barriers.

The foreigners are classified as Special Interest Aliens (SIA) and are transported to stash areas in Acala, a rural crossroads located around 54 miles from El Paso on a state road – Highway 20. Once in the U.S., the SIAs wait for pick-up in the area's sand hills just across Highway 20.

Judicial Watch also broke a [story](#) about an ISIS training cell just a few miles from El Paso in an area known as "Anapra" situated just west of Ciudad Juárez in the Mexican state of Chihuahua. Law enforcement and intelligence sources on both sides of the border confirm that cartel-backed "coyotes" help smuggle ISIS terrorists through the desert and into the U.S. between Acala and Fort Hancock, Texas.

The areas are targeted for exploitation by ISIS because of their understaffed municipal and county police forces and the relative safe-havens the terrain provides for the unchecked large-scale drug smuggling. In the aftermath of Judicial Watch's story about Islamic terrorists operating in Juárez, Beto O'Rourke, the former congressman that's holding an anti-Trump rally during the president's event at the El Paso County Coliseum, tried to [silence](#) federal law enforcement sources.

O'Rourke, who represented El Paso in the House before a failed Senate bid, has long declared that Juárez is safe even as the notoriously violent region adjacent to his district is renowned for beheadings, gunfights, kidnappings and drug trafficking. Juárez is among the world's [most dangerous cities](#) and the [most dangerous place in the western hemisphere](#).

The problems in El Paso aren't limited to the immediate border region. In 2014 Judicial Watch exposed a [sophisticated](#)

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[narco-terror ring](#), operated by two of the FBI's most wanted, with roots and financing in El Paso. Its ringleader is an ISIS operative named Emad Karakrah, who was recently released on parole in Illinois.

Karakrah smuggled drugs and weapons for the renowned Juárez drug cartel in Mexico and was a logistics and transportation operative for militant Islamists in the United States. He moved people, weapons, explosives, drugs, money, and other materiel to terrorist cells operating in Chicago, Brooklyn, New York and Saddle Brook, New Jersey, among other locations across the U.S. Karakrah and his cohorts—including two of the FBI's most wanted terrorists ([Jaber A. Elbaneh](#) and [Adnan Gulshair el Shukrijumah](#))—operated from El Paso. Judicial Watch also produced an investigative [documentary](#) about the narco-terrorist cell.

El Paso is also known for corruption within the law enforcement ranks. The former deputy chief of the El Paso County Sheriff's Office (EPCSO), [Jesus "Eddie" Campa](#), got criminally indicted for embezzling millions of dollars in Homeland Security funds.

Campa served in the department as a jailer and officer for two decades. He left the agency following the indictment allegations, supposedly for embezzling \$5.6 million in Homeland Security Investigation (HSI) funds, sources told Judicial Watch. His boss, Sheriff Richard Wiles, has also been embroiled in several scandals.

Besides looking the other way as one of his trusted deputy chiefs embezzled millions of dollars, Wiles, serving his third term as sheriff, attended a fundraising event at the home of a [convicted felon](#) with connections to the illegal drug trade. El Paso County sheriff's deputies have reported, in detail, to Judicial Watch how the sheriff's office manipulates and phonies-up crime reporting statistics to minimize the true crime rate in the county.

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: At this Point, Mueller Probe is 'Harassment'

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on "Fox & Friends First" weighed in on the special counsel probe's impact over the last year and what it could mean for Mueller's final report, reportedly expected by February.

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### Tom Fitton on WMAL: Hillary Clinton ORDERED by Court to Answer Key Questions on Email Server

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "Mornings on the Mall" on WMAL Radio to discuss U.S. District Court Judge Emmet G. Sullivan ruled that within 30 days Clinton must answer under oath two additional questions about her controversial email system.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 02, 2019 1:30 PM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** Election infrastructure not compromised in November; EAC to tackle election security and ensuring voters have confidence in our process; LinkedIn apologizes for funding disinformation in Alabama

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Our [election infrastructure was not compromised](#) in November, according to the National Intelligence Director; the [EAC will tackle election security](#) and ensuring voters have confidence in our process; [LinkedIn apologizes](#) for funding disinformation in Alabama; [North Carolina legislature overrides election bill veto](#) making voter ID the law; and [Barack Obama is back](#), now focused on gerrymandering full time! Read [this week's EIB!](#)

## LEAD

### WSJ: U.S. Sees No Foreign Compromise of Election Systems in 2018 Midterms

The top U.S. intelligence official said Friday there had been no sign that American election systems had been compromised by hackers during the 2018 midterm elections, but that Russia and other foreign adversaries continued to conduct influence operations aimed at the U.S. The review aligned with what federal and state officials and cybersecurity firms had concluded shortly after November's contests: that Russia's trolls and hackers appeared to mostly sit on the sidelines in 2018.

## FEDERAL

### The Hill: Election Agency Prepares to Tackle Foreign Interference

Lawmakers on Capitol Hill are eying a once-struggling agency to take the lead on ensuring U.S. elections are secure. The Election Assistance Commission (EAC), first created in 2002 in response to the controversial 2000 presidential election, has been given new life as officials across the federal government try to figure out the best way to combat foreign election interference. These days the commissioners say they're largely focused on making sure voters feel secure in turning in their ballots, and aren't driven away by fears that their vote could be compromised.

### Washington Examiner: LinkedIn Co-Founder Apologizes for Funding Group Linked to Disinformation Efforts in Alabama Special Election

LinkedIn co-founder Reid Hoffman said he is embarrassed for funding a group that reportedly spread disinformation during the 2017 Alabama Senate special election. American Engagement Technologies, an organization Hoffman gave \$750,000, allegedly used Facebook and Twitter to help eventual victor Democrat Doug Jones at the expense of Republican Roy Moore, who has been accused of sexual misconduct. "I find the tactics that have been recently reported highly disturbing," Hoffman said, according to the Washington Post Wednesday. "For that reason, I am embarrassed by my failure to track AET — the organization I did support — more diligently as it made its own decisions to perhaps fund projects that I would reject."

## STATES

### Florida: Federal Judge Sets Hearing for Suspended Broward Elections Supervisor Brenda Snipes

Chief U.S. District Judge Mark Walker will hold a hearing in Tallahassee about a preliminary injunction sought by Snipes, according to a court docket. Snipes filed the lawsuit Monday against Gov. Rick Scott and Senate President Bill Galvano, arguing that her due-process rights had been violated. After a turbulent election in Broward County, Snipes announced on Nov. 18 that she would resign from the supervisor's post effective Jan. 4. Scott on Nov. 30 issued an executive order to suspend Snipes, but she decided to rescind the resignation and fight the suspension. The lawsuit seeks an injunction to block Scott and Galvano from enforcing parts of state law and a Senate rule dealing with suspensions. It also seeks a judgment that those parts of state law and the Senate rule are "null and void" because they deprive Snipes of due process.

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## **Maine: LePage Takes Parting Shot at 'Stolen Election' That Cost Fellow Republican His Seat in Congress**

Jared Golden will be sworn in with the other members of the incoming Congress on Jan. 3. Gov. Paul LePage signed off on the state's first-in-the-nation ranked-choice election to Congress on Friday, but also left a note of protest against the voter-approved election law that propelled Democratic State Rep. Jared Golden to a victory over incumbent Republican U.S. Rep. Bruce Poliquin in the 2nd District. LePage initialed Golden's certificate of election but also wrote "stolen election" beside it before sharing a photo of the certificate on Twitter with an additional comment. "I've signed off on the CD2 election result as it's no longer in federal court. Ranked Choice Voting didn't result in a true majority as promised – simply a plurality measured differently. It didn't keep big money out of politics & didn't result in a more civil election #mepolitics," LePage's official account tweeted.

## **Montana: Recount Drama Continues in Montana County After Attorney Calls Judge's Rules Illegal**

A recount in the Musselshell County sheriff's race set for Friday was delayed at the last minute after an attorney for the winner said a judge's recount rules were illegal. In the Nov. 6 general election, Undersheriff Shawn Lesnik beat write-in opponent Ronnie Burns, a horse breeder and former Texas police officer, by 41 votes (1,142 to 1,101). In a ruling issued Friday morning shortly before the recount was to begin, Richland County District Court Judge Katherine Bidegaray set eight parameters for the recount process. But Lesnik's attorney, Lisa Speare, claimed in an afternoon hearing the parameters were illegal, pointing to one allowing ballots for Burns to be counted when the voter wrote in his name but did not color in the oval. "That is illegal, absolutely contrary to Montana law," Speare said.

## **North Carolina: Election Fraud Problems Require a Bigger Fix**

Potentially illegal absentee ballot activities in Bladen County should never have affected the 2018 congressional election. The allegations were public knowledge — and national news — two years before, but a breakdown in election law enforcement left the matter unresolved for this year's midterm elections. The state elections board received complaints in 2016 that Bladen County political operative McCrae Dowless was paying people to collect voters' absentee ballots and give them to him. The board turned hundreds of pages of investigatory findings over to federal prosecutors — and that's where the safeguards that should protect our democracy broke down.

## **North Carolina: North Carolina Lawmakers Override Election Bill Veto**

North Carolina lawmakers have overridden the governor's veto of legislation that will allow the state elections board to keep confidential any allegations of campaign fundraising law violations. The state House and Senate on Thursday voted to retain the law, which also will affect the country's last undecided congressional race. The law will require new primaries and a new general election in North Carolina's 9th Congressional District if the state elections board looking into an ongoing case of ballot fraud decides it's necessary.

## **Ohio: Ward 3 Seat Changes Hands Several Times**

The Ward 3 City Council seat was at the center of controversy for more than half of 2018. Reginald Holman resigned on April 2 just hours before his fellow City Council members were prepared to approve a resolution finding he vacated and forfeited the office of Ward 3 representative by reason of non-residency and failing to qualify as a voter. Holman was also indicted in May and accused of knowingly registering or making application to register in a precinct in which he was not a qualified voter. Based on the "substantial evidence" the Board of Elections unanimously determined Holman was not a resident of 1123 W. 43rd St. and removed him from the voter registration rolls.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Liberty Nation: Obama Gerrymandering Battle Has One Purpose: Boosting Dems**

Former President Barack Obama is reportedly turning his entire political focus to redistricting, while claiming to battle gerrymandering. Which is just another way to say he is looking to maximize the voter clout of an urbanized Democratic Party. The Atlantic reports that Obama has "announced a major shift in the politics of his post-presidency," consolidating his Organizing for Action group into the National Democratic Redistricting Committee. Obama is apparently ready to take a stand against politically

motivated line-drawing – by engaging in some redistricting of his own. In fact, the left-leaning website ProPublica writes that Obama’s entire political career may have been launched via gerrymandering. After losing a race in 1999, Obama successfully redrew an Illinois state senate district to fit his desired specifications for a 2001 run.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 18, 2018 10:46 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** Election Integrity Bulletin: ACRU wins comprehensive court settlement to require voter list cleanup; President Trump issues new executive order on election security

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ACRU wins a [settlement agreement in Starr County](#) to increase the accuracy of the voter registration rolls. President Trump issues a [new executive order](#) to increase the security of elections. A New Mexico straight party voting [regulation is nixed by the courts](#). An analysis of the [Texas voter registration rolls](#) indicates widespread duplicate registrations and evidence of double voting. A Missouri amendment that included redistricting, is [knocked off the ballot](#). Read all about it in this week's [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).

## LEAD

### ACRU wins comprehensive settlement in Starr County voter roll suit - Agreement Outlines Maintenance, Training Reforms for Texas County

The American Civil Rights Union (ACRU) entered a groundbreaking and paradigm establishing settlement agreement outlining the most comprehensive strategy to date under the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 aimed at improving the quality of voter registration records, practices, and training for Starr County, Texas. "This well-crafted agreement makes great strides to preserve our most fundamental civil right and inspire new confidence in local elections," ACRU President Susan A. Carleson said.

## FEDERAL

### Ken Blackwell: Voter ID a Step All Americans Should be Willing to Take

Some have called the concept of voter ID a "racist" idea – but a former state official in Ohio considers it just part of an American's civic responsibility to protect the election process.

### Daily Signal: Trump's New Executive Order Is a Positive Step for Securing Elections

President Donald Trump's new executive order allowing the sanctioning of foreign individuals attempting to influence American elections is a necessary step in the right direction. The executive order establishes an interagency process for determining if foreign influence has occurred and for sanctioning those responsible.

## STATE

### Arizona: Appeals Court Rejects Democrats' Challenge to Arizona's Voting Laws

A divided federal appeals court rejected Democratic challenges to two Arizona voting laws Wednesday, upholding a lower court that said the rules put a minimal burden on voters and there was no evidence they were aimed at minority voters.

### Massachusetts: Secretary of State Seizing Control of Lowell, Lawrence Election Offices

Secretary of State William Galvin will take direct control of the election offices in Lowell and Lawrence to run any upcoming recounts and oversee the administration of the November general election.

### Maine: Lawmakers Uphold Governor LePage's Veto of Ranked-Choice Voting Bill

Secretary of State Matt Dunlap says the bill was needed to make sure Maine can pay its bills on time for the November election. Some of the costs include additional ballots and leasing of software. While Republican leader Ken Fredette says this is a matter that doesn't need to be addressed now, Democratic Speaker of the House Sara Gideon says there will be penalties for not overriding the veto.

### New Mexico: High Court Blocks Plan to Restore Straight-Party Voting

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The state Supreme Court unanimously ruled in favor of a petition by the state Republican and Libertarian parties and others arguing that Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver does not have the power to put straight-party voting back on ballots without legislative approval.

### **North Carolina: Non-Citizens Face Jail for Voting in North Carolina**

More than a dozen foreign nationals face prison time and heavy fines for voting in North Carolina, according to a new federal task force. The federal indictments may be the tip of the iceberg. Federal agents have subpoenaed more than 20 million North Carolina voter records covering eight years as part of a deepening inquiry into voter fraud in the Tar Heel State.

### **Texas: Federal Judge Upholds Texas' Partisan Statewide Judicial Elections System**

A federal judge has rejected a race-based challenge to the way Texans fill seats on the state's highest courts. U.S. District Judge Nelva Gonzales Ramos of Corpus Christi handed the state of Texas a win, writing that its current method for electing judges to the Texas Supreme Court and the Court of Criminal Appeals does not violate federal safeguards for voters of color.

### **Texas: Woman Who Took Cousin's Identity to Be Deported for Voting**

A Mexican national whose attorney said she used a cousin's identity to live in the U.S. for decades and held a job assessing students in Houston schools is facing deportation after pleading guilty to illegally voting in the 2016 election.

### **Texas: Analysis of Texas Voter Rolls Indicates Duplicate Registrations and Double Voting**

A review of the presidential votes cast in Texas in 2008, 2012, and 2016 by the data analysis firm Votistics found a disturbing number of duplicate registrations and multiple votes. Data provided by the Texas secretary of state indicate that 104,800 people appear to be registered more than once.

**Virginia: Report Finds Problems with Virginia Elections System** A Virginia legislative watchdog agency says the state's elections systems have a number of problems, including an unreliable IT system and a leadership structure susceptible to undue political influence. The Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission issued a report saying it found several areas of possible improvement.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Michigan: Democratic Group Gives \$250K to Redistricting Initiative**

The National Democratic Redistricting Committee led by former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder has announced a \$250,000 donation to bolster a Michigan ballot proposal that would empower a commission to draw congressional and legislative maps instead of the Legislature. The money will aid Voters Not Politicians, whose organizers successfully qualified the anti-gerrymandering constitutional amendment for the November ballot.

### **Missouri: Clean Missouri Politics Amendment Swept from November Ballot**

An initiative petition meant to clean up ethics in Missouri government and overhaul redistricting in the state was struck from the November ballot by a Cole County Circuit judge Friday, in part, for being too broad. Cole County Circuit Court Judge Daniel Green ruled that Amendment 1, known as Clean Missouri, dealt with "two different and extremely broad purposes," which violate the Missouri Constitution.

### **Virginia: Virginia GOP Rebuffs Governor's Claim That House Can't Fix District Lines**

Virginia House Speaker Kirk Cox was "surprised" and "disappointed" by a letter from Democratic Gov. Ralph Northam that suggested the House of Delegates would be unable to redraw House district lines. Northam wrote in his letter that Cox, R-Colonial Heights, must grant authority to three judges from the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia to draw the new lines, because the House was at an impasse.

### **Politico: GOP Redistricting Group Names Executive Director**

Adam Kincaid, who helped the Republican Party coordinate redistricting efforts after 2010, will serve as the

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executive director of the National Republican Redistricting Trust (NRTTA), the GOP's data and legal hub for the next round of redistricting.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 12, 2018 9:55 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** Election Integrity Bulletin: DOJ subpoenas North Carolina voting records to identify non-citizen voting; The truth about Kavanaugh's record on voting integrity issues

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The Justice Department [subpoenas North Carolina](#) voting records to identify non-citizen voting. The North Carolina [constitutional amendments](#) will stay on the November ballot and after years of litigation, the congressional district lines will remain intact for the November election. The Texas Attorney General [requests more funds](#) to investigate and prosecute voter fraud. An Ohio congressman [introduces a federal bill](#) requiring proof of citizenship when registering to vote. Critics of Supreme Court nominee Kavanaugh lie about his civil rights record [on voting issues](#). All this and more in the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).

## LEAD

### DOJ Demands North Carolina Voting Records be Given to Immigration Authorities

The Department of Justice is demanding that millions of voter records in North Carolina be turned over to immigration authorities this month. The subpoena requests that the state turn over "any and all voter registration applications and/or other documents ... that were submitted to, filed by, received by, or maintained by the North Carolina State Board of Elections" between Jan. 1, 2010, and Aug. 30 of this year.

## FEDERAL

### PJ Media: Lying About Brett Kavanaugh's Civil Rights Record on Voting Issues

Kavanaugh critics never tell the full story about his South Carolina voter ID decision. They omit an important part -- the part where Kavanaugh refused to do what some were urging. South Carolina asked the court to trim the scope of the federal Voting Rights Act that required federal approval.

### Rep. Bob Gibbs (R-OH 7) Introduces Bill to Require Citizenship Proof for Voter Registration

Holmes County GOP Rep. Bob Gibbs introduced legislation that would require people across the nation to provide proof of citizenship when they register to vote. "This is a matter of protecting the integrity of our elections," said a statement from Gibbs. "We have made substantial investments in protecting our voting systems from foreign influence or corruption. It is time to take steps to stop illegal voting before it happens, rather than dealing with the consequences after the fact."

### The Daily Signal: An Obama Judge Said Michigan's Voting Law Was Racially Motivated. A Higher Court Disagrees.

Sanity has prevailed in the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. A three-judge panel of that court, in very strong language, has stayed the absurd decision of an Obama-appointed judge, Gershwin A. Drain, who threw out the Michigan Legislature's decision to eliminate straight-ticket voting for supposedly violating the Constitution and the Voting Rights Act.

### NPR: Upcoming Redistricting Is a Backstory of 2018 Midterms

The task of drawing new boundaries for thousands of federal and state legislative districts is still about three years away, yet the political battle over redistricting already is playing out in this year's midterm elections. In Colorado, Michigan, Missouri and Utah, campaigns are underway for November ballot initiatives that would change the redistricting process so it's less partisan and creates more competitive districts. National Democratic and Republican groups are pouring millions of dollars into state races seeking to ensure they have officeholders in position to influence the next round of redistricting.

## STATE



## **Alaska: Division of Elections to Conduct Statewide Review of Felon Voters**

Alaska Division of Elections is investigating how a convicted felon landed on the state's voter rolls, according to a letter sent to House Rep. George Rauscher (R-Sutton). Rauscher called for a statewide review of all precincts. He also seeks an investigation of how felons who have not had their voting privileges restored find their way onto the voter rolls.

## **California: Department of Motor Vehicles Registered 23,000 Voters Incorrectly**

California's Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) told Secretary of State Alex Padilla that it made key errors in 23,000 voter registrations filed under the state's 2017 "motor voter" law. The 23,000 errant applications did not include any illegal aliens, the DMV says. However, there were other crucial errors, including registering people who had opted out of registration, and registering some people with the wrong party preference.

## **Florida: Judge Orders Florida Officials to Provide Sample Ballots in Spanish**

A federal judge in Florida has ordered Secretary of State Kenneth Detzner to mandate that local election officials comply with the Voting Rights Act of 1965 by providing sample ballots in Spanish. Plaintiffs asked for the materials because many people moved from Puerto Rico to Florida after Hurricane Maria and hope to cast ballots in the November general elections.

## **Kentucky: Complaints about Secretary of State Grimes' Alleged Abuse of Voter Records Raise Larger Questions of Election Security**

Last week's criminal indictments against her father and campaign consultant may render Alison Lundergan Grimes a political has-been. But questions about the oversight and security of Kentucky's elections will remain relevant even after Grimes finishes her final term as secretary of state next year.

## **New Mexico: Lawsuit Challenges Straight-Party Voting Option**

Democratic Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver's decision to reinstate straight-party voting for the November general election has brought together an unlikely group of allies for a court challenge. The New Mexico Republican and Libertarian parties, along with two outside political groups and a Democratic write-in candidate, filed a petition with the state Supreme Court seeking to bar the straight-party voting option for the Nov. 6 election.

## **North Carolina: Cooper, NAACP Both Lose Their Lawsuits Against NC Legislators Over Constitutional Amendments**

The N.C. Supreme Court handed losses to two lawsuits challenging the amendments. The court ruled against Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper in his lawsuit over two potential amendments that would take power away from the governor's office, and give that power to the legislature. Earlier in the day the court had also declined to hear an appeal from the North Carolina NAACP, which had sued over two different amendments that would create a new voter ID law and lower the state's maximum possible income tax rate.

## **Texas: AG Paxton Requests Additional Resources and Personnel to Combat Election Fraud**

To ensure that the cornerstone of our democracy, the election process, is protected by investigating and prosecuting ever-increasing allegations of voter fraud, the OAG requested an increase in funding and employees toward this effort. Between 2005-2017, only 93 voter fraud cases were prosecuted by the state of Texas. In the past year alone, Attorney General Paxton's office prosecuted 87 counts of voting violations with only two attorneys and four investigators. In addition to receiving referrals for cases from the Secretary of State, the OAG proactively looks into instances of illegal votes and election fraud.

## **West Virginia: 'Cleansing' of Voter Registration Lists Went Well, County Clerks Say**

Despite some hiccups, local county clerks say statewide maintenance that removed more than 100,000 names from voter registration lists has gone well. In August, Secretary of State Mac Warner announced that his office, working in conjunction with the 55 county clerks, had completed what he described as a long overdue "cleansing of the rolls."



## REDISTRICTING

### North Carolina: Congressional Elections to Proceed as Scheduled with Same Maps, Court Rules

North Carolina's 13 congressional districts will remain in place and so will the Nov. 6, 2018 election, a federal three-judge panel ruled. The panel ruled last week that the districts are unconstitutional due to "partisan gerrymandering" designed to produce 10 Republican seats. But, with the election only two months away, the plaintiffs in the case — the North Carolina chapters of Common Cause and The League of Women Voters — argued that it was too late to change the maps despite their victory. On Tuesday, the court agreed.

### Virginia: Republican House Speaker Kirk Cox Appeals Redistricting Ruling to U.S. Supreme Court

The Republican speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates has filed a formal appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court on Tuesday seeking to overturn a court ruling that found 11 House districts were unconstitutionally gerrymandered. A federal court ruled in June that lawmakers illegally packed African-American voters into the 11 districts and ordered lawmakers to redraw them by Oct. 30. Republicans say the districts are constitutional, and they filed notice in July that they would appeal.

### State-Level Redistricting Fights Involve Plenty of Money Moves

While Democrats and Republicans are struggling for control of Congress, there's another important battle brewing over state legislatures. Edwin Bender, executive director of the National Institute of Money in Politics explained, "Every 10 years we go through an election cycle, and the winners of that get the prize of being in control of the redistricting process in the states. And that redistricting process often means that the parties in control of the process can create districts that benefit them come the next election cycle."

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 25, 2018 4:54 PM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** Election Integrity Bulletin: The House of Representatives to Consider Resolution on Non-Citizen Voting; Sneak Peek at 2020 Reapportionment

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The U.S. House of Representatives may vote this week [on a resolution](#) admonishing cities for allowing illegal aliens to vote in local election. A [sneak peek forecast](#) of the 2020 reapportionment changes coming in 12 bubble seats. Chaos and a power struggle in [Kentucky elections](#) and multiple indictments for double voting across state lines in [West Virginia](#) and [New Hampshire](#). Finally, after years of litigation, Texas declares victory in the [voter ID battle](#). More details found in the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#). Please follow us on twitter [@The\\_ACRU](#) for real time voting news.

## LEAD

### House to Vote on Resolution Admonishing Cities for Allowing Illegal Aliens to Vote in Local Elections

The U.S. House of Representatives will vote this week on a resolution offered by House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy that admonishes U.S. cities for allowing illegal aliens to vote in local elections. The two-page bill state that allowing illegal aliens the right to vote disenfranchises American citizens.

## FEDERAL

### Fairlines: 2020 Reapportionment Forecast – the Twelve Bubble Seats

Every ten years the U.S. Census reapportions congressional representation, shifting both seats and sometimes electoral college votes. Most changes are seen coming well in advance of the census, but occasionally a seat or two shifts unexpectedly. Fair Lines America has identified 12 seats currently on the bubble for apportionment.

## STATE

### Arkansas: Arkansas Court Hears Challenge Over Reworked Voter ID Law

Justices are considering a challenge to the 2017 voter ID law. They halted a judge's order in May that blocked the voter ID law's enforcement, keeping the requirement in place while they take up the case.

### Arizona: Judge Won't Order Immediate Address Updates of Arizona's Voter Registration List

A federal judge has refused to order Secretary of State Michele Reagan to immediately update voter registration addresses of 384,000 Arizonans who moved since the last election. But the ruling leaves the door open to further court action to ensure that Reagan — or whoever succeeds her — finally brings the state into compliance with federal voting laws.

### California: California's DMV Finds 3,000 More Unintended Voter Registrations

The Department of Motor Vehicles said that an additional 3,000 people were mistakenly signed up to vote during the rollout of the state's new "motor voter" program, errors made during the spring and summer and part of a larger batch of problems first reported two weeks ago. While the total number of registration errors between mid-April and early-August remains the same — estimated at roughly 23,000 — the new discovery more than doubles the instances in which customers unsuccessfully tried to opt out of registering to vote, the DMV said.

### Georgia: DeKalb Senate Candidate Claims People Voted After Polls Closed

An unsuccessful DeKalb Senate candidate is claiming people voted after the polls closed. Sabrina McKenzie is suing DeKalb County elections officials over her defeat in the May primary. She lost by 111

votes to Senate minority leader Steve Henson. She claims people in at least one precinct were allowed to vote after polls closed. She also says some voters got the wrong ballots.

### **Illinois: Union President: 'Vote Early, Vote Often, Whatever You Can Get Away With...'**

At a Labor Rally, Totsy Bailey, Local 439 Steamfitters/Pipefitters Union president, can be heard saying, "Vote early, vote often, whatever you can get away with... I shouldn't say that, but, I don't care." When reached for comment, Bailey said he didn't have a comment about his words and hung up the phone abruptly.

### **Kentucky: The Kentucky State Board of Elections is in Chaos as Election Day Nears**

The power struggle is intense between the staff of the State Board of Elections and Secretary of State Alison Lundergan Grimes over control of Kentucky's election system. Jared Dearing, executive director of the State Board of Elections, filed a complaint last month with the board, the executive branch ethics commission and the state personnel board, alleging Grimes had overstepped her authority by eliminating the independence of the board's staff, asking her staffers to access the voter database, and creating a hostile work environment.

### **Louisiana: Board Member Charged with Felony over Dueling Addresses on Voter Registration**

The vice chairman of the Southern University System Board of Supervisors was charged with filing a false public record after investigators found his voter registration and homestead exemption were for two different Ascension Parish addresses.

### **New Hampshire: New Hampshire Couple Charged with Double Voting in 2016**

A couple accused of casting ballots in two states are the first to face voter fraud charges in New Hampshire after their names were flagged by a multistate database.

### **New Jersey: Hoboken Woman Paid Voters \$50 in Vote-by-Mail Bribery Scheme**

A Hudson County woman is accused of paying Hoboken residents to cast mail-in ballots for particular candidates in what federal authorities describe as a voter bribery scheme. Lizaida Camis, 55, of Hoboken is charged with violating the Travel Act for causing mail to be used to aid voter bribery. Craig Carpenito, the U.S. Attorney for New Jersey, said Camis paid voters \$50 in 2013 to apply for vote-by-mail ballots and then cast them for candidates whose campaigns employed her.

### **Pennsylvania: Review Finds Nearly 400 Potentially Ineligible Voters in Berks County**

With Nov. 6 quickly approaching, Berks County election officials have been poring over voter rolls to ensure they are accurate. Officials recently received a list from the Pennsylvania Department of State informing them that there may be as many as 371 Berks residents, including those who were not U.S. citizens, who were ineligible to vote when they registered. The analysis by the state was triggered by the discovery last year of an oversight in the PennDOT's motor-voter system. The review found about 8,700 potentially ineligible voters remain on the rolls across 64 counties.

### **Texas: Texas Declares 'Final Victory' in Voter ID Lawsuit**

A United States District Court judge dismissed the lawsuit which challenged the Texas voter ID law, announced Attorney General Ken Paxton late Monday. This marked the end of seven years of litigation over the state's attempts to enact a voter ID law.

### **West Virginia: Morgan County Man Arrested for Voting Illegally in Two States**

A man has been charged for allegedly voting illegally in two states. The Morgan County Sheriff's Department worked alongside West Virginia Secretary of State Investigator Gary Harmison to apprehend Jeffrey Hartman, 72, for illegal voting.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Missouri: Missouri Court Lets Redistricting Initiative go to Voters**

A Missouri appeals court panel cleared the way for voters to decide a November ballot initiative that could

shake up of the state Legislature by requiring districts to be drawn to achieve "partisan fairness" and imposing new lobbying limits. Attorneys for those opposing the measure said they would appeal to the state Supreme Court. But time is running short. Missouri law sets a Tuesday deadline to make changes to the Nov. 6. ballot.

### Virginia: Virginia Republicans Propose Their Own Redistricting Plan

House Republicans released their own proposed map Tuesday afternoon in the ongoing debate over redrawing some of Virginia's legislative districts. The plan is the latest move in a tense political debate over a court-ordered redrawing of 11 House of Delegates districts. Lawmakers have until Oct. 30 to produce a map, or else a federal court will take over.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Thursday, August 16, 2018 8:55 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** Election Integrity Bulletin: ACRU Files Appeal To Clean Up Corrupted Voter Rolls; North Carolina, Kentucky, and Minnesota Investigate Voter Fraud Cases

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The [ACRU filed an appeal](#) seeking to overturn a trial court ruling siding with Broward County. The litigation continues over an alleged failure to conduct voter list maintenance. [According to a new book](#), the November midterms are poised for a tsunami of voter fraud. [Governor Rick Scott demands proof](#) of Russian intrusion into Florida's voter rolls claimed by Senator Nelson. [North Carolina, Kentucky and Minnesota](#) investigate voter fraud cases. Read all about it in this week's [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).

## LEAD

### ACRU: Lawsuit Demands Broward County Clean Up Corrupted Voter Rolls

Monday night The American Civil Rights Union (ACRU) filed an appellant brief in American Civil Rights Union v. Snipes, arguing that Broward County officials are failing to remove ineligible names from voter rolls and putting citizens' votes at risk of being diluted by ballot fraud, seeking to overturn a March 30th trial court ruling siding with the county.

## FEDERAL

### Florida: Rick Scott Demands Bill Nelson Provide Proof of Russian Election Meddling

Amid growing concerns over the security of Florida voter registration systems, Gov. Rick Scott demanded that Sen. Bill Nelson prove a vague claim that Russians have penetrated state safeguards. "Did Nelson illegally release classified information? Or did he make this charge of Russian penetration up?" the governor asks in Tampa.

### Breitbart: Exclusive—Eric Eggers: November Midterms 'Poised for a Tsunami of Voter Fraud'

The Government Accountability Institute's (GAI) Eric Eggers, author of *Fraud: How the Left Plans to Steal the Next Election*, warned of a potential "tsunami of voter fraud" within November's forthcoming midterm elections. Eggers pointed to narrow electoral margins of victory in Tuesday's elections as evidence of vulnerability to the threat of voter fraud.

### Breitbart: Perez on Ohio Special Election: 'What Won Yesterday Was Gerrymandering'

On Wednesday's broadcast of CNN's "New Day," DNC Chairman Tom Perez commented on the special election in Ohio's 12th Congressional District and stated that the district was "heavily gerrymandered" in favor of Republican candidate Troy Balderson, and "what won yesterday was gerrymandering."

## STATES

### Alabama: Voter ID Law Had No 'Suppression' Impact on Black Americans in Recent Alabama Election

Alabama's voter ID laws had no suppression impact on black American turnout in the state's most recent Senate election. Despite constant accusations from organizations funded by billionaire George Soros and Democrats that laws mandating voters show ID ahead of casting a ballot suppress minority turnout, the most recent case in Alabama seemingly debunks this theory.

### Iowa: Iowa Supreme Court Hears Arguments in Voter ID Law Appeal

The Iowa Supreme Court has heard arguments about a legal challenge to a new state voter identification law and a judge's ruling that puts several aspects of absentee voting in the law on hold. Under an injunction issued in July by a judge the state is prohibited from shortening the time to cast absentee ballots

from 40 days to 29 days. It is also be barred from requiring that absentee ballots include a voter verification number and from allowing ballots to be thrown out when a local election official determines the voter's signature doesn't match one on file. Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate's appeal asks the court to overturn the injunction.

### **Kentucky: Election Fraud Investigation in Robertson, Kentucky**

A special prosecutor has been assigned to a case involving alleged election/voter fraud in Robertson County during the May primary election. According to Terry Sebastian, spokesperson with the Kentucky Attorney General's office, the OAG received complaints during the election cycle. Sebastian said Robertson County Commonwealth's Attorney Doug Miller reached out to the OAG to make officials aware of complaints he had also received. "Our office has primary jurisdiction, but Miller called us to let us know about the possible irregularities and asked to be recused from the investigation," Sebastian said. "A special prosecutor is now looking into it."

### **Minnesota: Hennepin County Investigates Rare Voting Violation in Minneapolis Absentee Ballots**

Authorities are investigating what they call a rare incident of voting violations in Minneapolis after a person used someone else's name to complete witness verification forms for several absentee ballots. Hennepin County Elections Manager Ginny Gelms said election staff witnessed the incident and worked with the city to track down 12 absentee ballots involved.

### **North Carolina: NC Election Board Investigating Alleged Voter Fraud in Robeson County**

The North Carolina State Board of Elections & Ethics Enforcement announced that investigators are reviewing alleged misconduct by individuals at voter registration drives across the state. Robeson County is on the list of counties. The board received multiple reports of misconduct. The State Board will investigate all credible allegations of voter registration fraud by individuals or organizations."

### **Ohio: Ohio Race Just Got Closer After County Finds Hundreds of Uncounted Votes**

The tight race between Democrat Danny O'Connor and Republican Troy Balderson just got tighter. Election officials in Franklin County found 588 previously uncounted votes in a Columbus suburb. The result: O'Connor had a net gain of 190 votes, bringing the race's margin down to 1,564, Balderson declared victory Tuesday night in the closely watched congressional district race in central Ohio. But O'Connor says he's waiting for all votes to be counted. That includes 3,435 provisional ballots and 5,048 absentee ballots, which will be tabulated by Aug. 24.

### **Ohio: Expert: 170 Registered Voters in Ohio's 12th District Listed as Over 116 Years Old**

Republican Troy Balderson clings to a narrow margin in last night's special election for Ohio's 12th Congressional district, underscoring the impact voter fraud can have in key elections around the country. The separation of 1700 votes, or less than one percent, highlights the recent attempt by Democratic activists to fight efforts to prevent voter fraud from occurring. Consider that 170 registered voters listed as being over 116 years old still existed on the rolls of Ohio's 12th Congressional last August. That's 10 percent of Balderson's current margin of victory, pending provisional ballots. And 72 voters over the age of 116 who "live" in Balderson's district cast ballots in the 2016 election.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **UtahPolicy.com: Utah Senate President Criticizes Redistricting State Ballot Initiative**

Utah Senate Pres. Wayne Niederhauser says the redistricting initiative that will be on the ballot in November is really an attempt by Salt Lake City Democrats to pack a congressional district with Democratic voters. "Better Boundaries Initiative" is nothing more than a cleverly disguised partisan ploy. They are seeking to pack what is now a competitive congressional district with Democrat voters to create a single, safe, and solidly Democrat congressional district around Salt Lake City."

### **Virginia: Court asks Virginia GOP: What's the Redistricting Plan?**

Virginia Republican lawmakers have a two-week deadline to declare whether they plan to comply with a court order to redraw the state's legislative map. A federal court issued an order Wednesday giving House Republican members until Aug. 24 to say what their plans are. The court has previously ordered

lawmakers to come up with a new map by October after ruling that lawmakers illegally packed black voters into certain districts to make surrounding districts whiter and more Republican. GOP House Speaker Kirk Cox has appealed that ruling and asked that the October deadline be put off until the U.S. Supreme Court weighs in on the case.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 28, 2018 10:54 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** Election Integrity Bulletin: In North Carolina, Nineteen Foreign Nationals Charged for Voting in 2016 Election

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In North Carolina, a grand jury issued indictments on [19 foreign nationals for illegally voting in elections and new research shows Texas non-citizens are registering to vote and voting](#). Maine's Governor tells the Mayor of Portland that [it is illegal to give voting rights to non-citizens](#). In other news, Supreme Court nominee [Brett Kavanaugh is on the right side of voting laws and North Carolina Voter ID amendment stays on the ballot, while lawmakers re-write other amendments](#). Read the details in this week's [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).

## LEAD

### Nineteen Foreign Nationals Charged for Voting in 2016 Election: Multiple Defendants Voted in More Than One Election

Robert J. Higdon, Jr., United States Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina today announced that nineteen foreign nationals were charged with voting illegally in the 2016 general election. A twentieth defendant was charged with aiding and abetting a fellow defendant in falsely claiming United States citizenship in order to register to vote.

## FEDERAL

### The Hill: Brett Kavanaugh is on Side of Supreme Court on Voting Laws

What Kavanaugh's record reveals on voter identification is careful consideration of the right to vote with the concurrent need to secure fair and honest elections. In his opinion he wrote that South Carolina permits anyone to vote using a number of readily available forms of identification, including a driver's license, a DMV photo identification card, a passport, a federal military identification, and a newly created photo voter registration card, which could be obtained for free at all county elections offices.

### WSJ: FBI, DHS Chiefs Unaware of 'New or Ongoing' Election Hacks in Florida

The chiefs of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Homeland Security said in a letter that they are not aware of any new or persistent hacks that have compromised state or local election systems in Florida, countering public statements made recently by the state's senior senator "Although we have not seen new or ongoing compromises of state or local election infrastructure in Florida, Russian government actors have previously demonstrated both the intent and capability to conduct malicious cyber operations," states a copy of the letter reviewed by The Wall Street Journal.

## STATES

### Alabama: SOS John Merrill: Anyone Who Believes Viral Election Hacking Video 'Is Not Thinking Very Clearly'

After a video recently went viral on social media depicting American election equipment being easily hacked at this summer's Def Con hacking conference, Alabama Secretary of State John Merrill said it is "unconscionable" that anyone would give the video "any credence." Merrill was quick to point out the clear and overarching fallacy in the hacker's panic-causing assertion. "I don't know that there's a singular problem with the equipment that's been challenged, because I can't think of a single jurisdiction in the United States of America where a polling official would allow anybody that is not authorized to come into contact with the voting equipment and have unfettered access to that equipment at the level that would give them unbridled permission to compromise the integrity of the equipment. Merrill slammed the video, which currently has approximately 2 million views, and people who are using it to stir up mass hysteria about election security.

Florida: But it's not vote fraud...

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In Florida's Broward County (Fort Lauderdale) more than 100 percent of the voting age population was registered to vote. But it's not voter fraud, we're supposed to believe. While the fact that more people registered to vote than the number who are eligible to vote doesn't ipso facto prove voter fraud, it certainly enables it. Supervisor of Elections Brenda Snipes apparently doesn't think so, claiming that she regularly verifies the list as required by law. Snipes successfully defended the indefensible when a federal judge ruled in her favor in a suit brought by the conservative charging her with being too lenient in removing unqualified voters. The ACRU, appealing the American Civil Rights Union decision, has now filed its argument with the appeals court, alleging that Snipes has violated the federal National Voter Registration Act, by "failing to remove ineligible names from voter rolls and putting citizens' votes at risk of being diluted by ballot fraud."

### **Hawaii: Voter Fraud Allegations Demand an Investigation**

Hawaii residents cite a number of reasons for not voting, including that one party dominates local politics. Consider the possibility, however, that there are people who do vote but mainly to ensure that their medical care does not suddenly cease. That is the awful scenario at the heart of a lawsuit filed Monday that alleges state Rep. Romy Cachola "intimidates voters and interferes with the elective franchise by directly asking for votes from those seeking essential healthcare services."

### **Maine: Governor LePage Tells Portland Mayor It's Illegal to Give Voting Rights to Noncitizens**

Gov. Paul LePage sent a letter to Portland Mayor Ethan Strimling explaining why his proposal to allow noncitizens to vote in municipal elections would violate state law. LePage pointed to several statutes, including a law that specifies the criteria for registering and voting in an election in Maine, with the first criteria being "the person must be a citizen of the United States." The governor said other laws stipulate that Portland can't exempt local elections from these criteria by amending the city charter.

### **North Carolina: Court Leaves Voter ID Amendment on Ballot**

The court on Tuesday denied the NAACP request to remove an amendment that would have voters decide whether to enshrine a voter photo ID requirement in the state constitution and another amendment that would reduce the maximum state income tax rate from 10 percent to 7 percent. The ballot language for those amendments is not misleading, the order said. The judges said Clean Air Carolina does not have legal standing to bring a lawsuit.

### **North Carolina: Lawmakers Will Vote on Rewrite of Constitutional Amendments**

The North Carolina General Assembly will come back into session on Friday and Monday to hold votes to rewrite two constitutional amendments struck down by a three-judge panel earlier this week because of misleading language. House Speaker Tim Moore, a Cleveland County Republican, said "The General Assembly will write new ballot referendums in compliance with the court's ruling because the proposals provide a popular bipartisan balance in our state government that will benefit the people of North Carolina who deserve a voice in considering reforms to their constitution."

### **Texas: Non-Citizens Registered to Vote in Texas, Some Cast Ballots**

Hundreds, if not thousands of non-U.S. citizens, are registered to vote in Texas, and some have cast ballots in elections, WFAA discovered. "We now know for sure that noncitizens are voting. The question is how many and how big of an issue it is," said state Sen. Don Huffines, R-Dallas. Direct Action Texas, a conservative grassroots organization, originally made the claim at a news conference last week. Turns out, it is true. The Texas Secretary of State said efforts are underway right now to improve the voter database and determine the exact number of noncitizens currently eligible to vote. "We think it's very likely we've had noncitizens cast ballots," Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton said.

### **West Virginia: Secretary of State's Office Hits 100,000 Removals in Voter Registration Clean-up**

More than 100,000 voter registrations across the state have been removed as part of an initiative to clean up the state's voter registration list, according to Secretary of State Mac Warner. "My office has a sincere appreciation for what county clerks do, and we know that county clerks are focused on free and fair elections. Most importantly, they know that election security starts with a valid, updated and accurate voter registration list," Warner said. "Clean lists reduce opportunities for fraud, lower waiting times at polls, reduce campaign costs for candidates and save money because fewer ballots need to be printed. It will

also provide for more accurate turn-out figures."

## REDISTRICTING

### Lawyers for Virginia House GOP Renew Call for Stay of Redistricting Order

Lawyers for the Virginia House of Delegates and Speaker Kirk Cox said they will pursue new district boundaries, but renewed their request to delay a redistricting order while they pursue their appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. In a statement filed with the judges Friday evening, lawyers for the GOP majority said they will pursue redistricting in the specified time frame, but added that "whether this can succeed depends on many separate political actors. As the record before the court and federal case law makes clear, redistricting is a political process, so it remains unknown how the process will unfold in this instance."

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 21, 2018 10:36 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** Election Integrity Bulletin: Nearly 250 Counties Have More Registered Voters Than Eligible Voters

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According to the [Government Accountability Institute](#), nearly 250 counties have more registered voters than eligible voters, a real issue not yet resolved by the states. While [Senator Bill Nelson of Florida backtracks on the Russians](#), the [Iowa Secretary of State](#) calls the Russians out as propagandists and bad actors. Read all about it in this week's [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).

## LEAD

### **Breitbart: Exclusive—Eric Eggers: Nearly 250 Counties Have More Registered Voters than Eligible Voters**

Nearly 250 counties across the United States have more registered voters on the voting rolls than the number of eligible, citizen voters, Government Accountability Institute (GAI) research director Eric Eggers reveals in his new book. He said that voter fraud in the U.S. is a real issue that has yet to be dealt with. "You have 248 counties in this country that have more registered voters than you have citizens of legal voting age ... nearly three million people are registered to vote in more than one state. Even Barack Obama's administration said that yeah, maybe 16 million election registrations are completely inaccurate."

## FEDERAL

### **Florida: Bill Nelson Backtracks After Claiming Russia Hacked Florida Election Systems**

Senator Bill Nelson on Tuesday tried to back away from his unsupported claim that Russian operatives had managed to penetrate Florida's election databases ahead of the 2018 midterms. At a campaign event on Tuesday, he appeared to try to explain away that comment. "I want you to know why I said what I said," the Florida Democrat was filmed telling supporters at the event in Lake City. "It would be foolish to think if the Russians were in our election apparatus in Florida in 2016 and that has now been twice documented . . . that they are not continuing." Nelson added that he was merely reiterating a warning about midterm-election hacking.

### **Townhall: Yes, Opposing Voter ID Is UnAmerican**

*@KMCRadio: "If you oppose voter ID you're unAmerican."* Simple and to the point. Twitter didn't seem to think so. The arguments they made in response ran the gamut but the gist of them had to do with me being racist, elitist, and in some way attempting to throttle the possibility of a free electorate from participating in our grand republic. Voter IDs will guarantee that every vote cast is cast by a citizen of this nation and that will make the integrity of the process soar. And adding more integrity to the ethic of our elections is definitely a pro-American thing to do.

## STATES

### **Alabama: Judge Instructs Grand Jury to Consider Phenix City Voter Fraud Allegations**

Russell County's chief judge called the hand of the Alabama attorney general's office Monday morning when he instructed the new grand jury to consider the case of alleged Phenix City election fraud. Circuit Court Judge Michael Bellamy charged the grand jury, which has the responsibility to determine whether there should be an indictment in potential crimes, to consider facts from alleged voter fraud in a Nov. 14 Phenix City Council special election.

### **Arizona: Arizona Secretary of State Rejects ACLU Voter Registration Request**

Arizona Secretary of State Michele Reagan has rejected a request to unilaterally change more than 500,000 voter registration addresses to the address listed on driver's licenses. She says the American Civil Liberties Union wrote a letter to her office late last year. Reagan says the ACLU requested she direct the

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Department of Transportation to automatically update a person's voter registration address when they change information on their driver license using ADOT's website unless the voter opts out. Reagan says the ACLU also wanted her office to alter registration records without a voter's consent.

### **Florida: Elections Chief Snipes Ordered to Change Handling of Mail-In Ballots**

In a ruling that could make it easier for groups to challenge potentially ineligible absentee ballots, a Broward circuit judge has ordered Elections Supervisor Brenda Snipes to change the way her office handles those mailed-in votes. The Republican Party of Florida had sought the ruling...Judge Raag Singhal said Florida law was clear on the subject: The ballots should not be opened until the county's three-member canvassing board had determined the validity of the ballots.

### **Florida: Were 275 Votes Cast by Florida Felons Illegally?**

Miami-Dade prosecutors investigate Miami-Dade corruption prosecutors are investigating allegations that at least 275 ineligible felons voted illegally in the county's November 2016 general election. The questionable ballots were discovered during an examination of a sample of 922 registered, but ineligible felon voters identified and purged by the Miami-Dade Supervisor of Elections Office in the six months after the 2016 election. The investigation was disclosed in a July 25 email from prosecutors to Andrew Ladanowski, a Coral Springs data analyst.

### **Iowa: Secretary of State Paul Pate: Russians Haven't Hacked Iowa**

Attempts by foreign interests to impact Iowa elections have been unsuccessful so far, according to Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate. "Not a single vote has ever been touched here by Russia or any bad actors," Pate said. "Hundreds of thousands of bad actors every day try to get into government systems – state, counties, schools – either to show off or steal identities or create discord and a lack of confidence in the voting system," he said. "The cold war isn't over, it's just shifted gears – propaganda and trade wars are where it's at today," Pate said.

### **Nevada: Las Vegas Man Gets Probation for Voter Fraud Scheme**

A Las Vegas man was given a suspended sentence and placed on probation by a judge for his role in a voter fraud scheme during the 2016 election, Nevada law officials announced Wednesday. Renaldo Johnson, 56, had pleaded guilty to a single felony count of misconduct in signing, filing, or altering a petition for his role in falsifying signatures in an attempt to qualify the Nevada Green Party for the general election ballot in 2016.

### **North Carolina: Wake County Man Sentenced for Illegally Voting in U.S. Elections**

A Wake County man was sentenced to four months in prison for illegally voting in the 2012 and 2016 elections. Roberto Hernandez-Cuarenta, 57, of Zebulon, was convicted on two counts of voting by alien. Although Hernandez-Cuarenta is a legal resident of the United States, the native of Mexico is not a U.S. citizen, rendering him ineligible to cast ballots in U.S. elections. According to authorities, Hernandez-Cuarenta, "knowing he was not a United States citizen, did knowingly vote in two elections. The right to vote is a precious privilege available only to citizens of the United States," said Robert J. Higdon Jr., United States Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina. "When a non-citizen votes in a federal election it serves to dilute and devalue the vote of American citizens and places the decision-making authority of the American electorate in the hands of those who have no right to make those choices."

### **Texas: Woman Pleads Guilty to Voter Fraud, Sentenced to Five Days in Jail**

Cynthia Gonzalez was charged with three election code violations. Investigators said those include marking a ballot and then sending it in for another voter. Gonzalez pleaded guilty in San Patricio County court Tuesday. Nueces County Elections Clerk Kara Sands said the charges send a clear message -- they will not tolerate voter fraud.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **The Hill: Pioneer of Modern Redistricting Dies at 75**

For more than four decades, when Republicans needed strategic advice drawing political boundaries, the party turned to a small cadre of expert cartographers, trained in the rare art of redistricting. At the heart of

that group was Tom Hofeller. A mild-mannered California native who rarely allowed himself to be quoted in the media, Hofeller may be more responsible for the Republican majority in Congress than any other single person in modern politics. He is one of only a handful of people who helped create the modern redistricting process, first by crafting district lines meant to overcome decades of Democratic advantages and then by tilting the field in favor of Republicans in later years.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018 10:00 AM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** Election Integrity Bulletin - Obama "Wingman" Eric Holder takes \$30 million aim at GOP Redistricting

**Voter ID and Redistricting News flooded the headlines this week - Former Obama "Wingman" - Eric Holder - is focused on a multi-state \$30 million effort to lay a more favorable field for his allies in 2018 and 2020. Voter ID is in the news in Arkansas, Iowa, and Nebraska. And a third voter fraud arrest was made in south Texas where ACRU has been scrutinizing the voter rolls. Please read more in the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#). Make a difference and share with a colleague.**

## **LEAD**

### **The Hill: Holder redistricting effort aims to break GOP statehouse control**

Former Attorney General Eric Holder is ramping up his efforts to reshape Republican-drawn congressional district maps. Holder's plan focuses on "trifectas" — states where Republicans control both the governor's mansion and both legislative chambers, giving them total control over the redistricting process.

## **FEDERAL**

### **Christian Science Monitor: In Democrats' strategic strike against gerrymandering, Holder leads the charge**

Democrats are laying plans for a political reset — and, they hope, a more level playing field — with an impact that would reach all the way to 2031. Leading the charge is a perhaps-unlikely figure: Eric Holder, attorney general under former President Barack Obama.

## **STATES**

### **Arkansas: Lawsuit filed over Arkansas' revamped voter ID law**

An Arkansas resident asked a judge Wednesday to strike down a new state law requiring voters show photo identification before casting a ballot, arguing the measure causes the same problems as a nearly identical state voter ID law struck down four years ago.

### **Idaho: Dem Lawmaker says Idaho should leave program that searches for signs of voter fraud**

Idaho House Minority Leader Mat Erpelding, D-Boise, proposed legislation to end Idaho's participation in the Interstate Voter Registration Crosscheck Program run by the Kansas Secretary of State's Office.

### **Illinois: Early voting delayed by hiccup in whose names will go on the ballot**

A hangup in the race for Illinois attorney general along with another case filed to the state elections board have thrown a wrench into early voting activities in St. Clair County. Officials are delaying the vote until judges make decisions in the two cases.

### **Iowa: Eastern Iowans experience first elections with voter ID changes**

Hundreds of voters took to the polls in Lisbon where they were asked to show their ID. Linn County Auditor Joel Miller said only a few did not have identification.

### **Nebraska: Senator Chambers threatens filibuster over voter ID bill**

State Sen. John Murante said Nebraskans want voter id. "They understand it's a common-sense proposal. The time for filibustering has come to an end, let's put this issue on the ballot and let the people vote on it."

### **Texas: Another arrest made in Starr County voter fraud case**

A third person has been arrested in Starr County's ongoing investigation into voter fraud.

Belinda Garcia, 45, turned herself in to the Starr County Special Crimes Unit, confirmed District Attorney Omar Escobar.

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## **Wisconsin: Wisconsin Dems: Obtaining Voter ID is "Free and Easy"**

The Democratic Party of Wisconsin on Monday admitted it is "free and easy" for Wisconsin voters to obtain a photo."

### **REDISTRICTING**

#### **North Carolina: Partial stay for Republican legislators in North Carolina redistricting case**

Republican legislators scored a partial victory on redistricting last night as the Supreme Court agreed to block part of a decision by a three-judge federal court invalidating the state's legislative maps.

#### **Ohio: Ohio lawmakers approve redistricting reform proposal for voters**

Ohio lawmakers approved redistricting reform aimed at curbing gerrymandering by changing how electoral district boundaries are drawn to ensure they do not favor one political party over another.

#### **Texas: New effort launched by national Democrats to impact legislative elections in Texas, 10 other states**

Former President Barack Obama and members of his administration are ready to take another shot at chipping away at Republican domination in Texas.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 21, 2018 11:52 AM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** Election Integrity Bulletin - Pennsylvania Supreme Court draws map favorable to Democrats; ACURU files brief with proposed map

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court draws a new congressional map favorable to the Democrats, President Trump highlights the issue and recommends an appeal. In that case, ACURU filed a [brief with a proposed map](#) to the Court. Meanwhile, a liberal group proposes restrictions on military voting. You don't want to miss this [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).

## LEAD

### **Pennsylvania Supreme Court unveils new redistricting plan, advantages Democrats**

Republican lawmakers, who have fought the redistricting lawsuit all along, said they will likely sue to stop the plan created by the state Supreme Court. "This entire exercise, while cloaked in 'litigation,' is and has been nothing more than the ultimate partisan gerrymander — one brought about by the Democrat governor acting in concert with liberal politically-connected litigants," they said.

## FEDERAL

### **Department of Homeland Security pushes back on NBC, 'no evidence' Russians 'manipulated' elections**

The Department of Homeland Security made the rare move Monday to officially discredit an NBC News report that claimed a top Trump official found that "Russians successfully penetrated the voter registration rolls of several U.S. states prior to the 2016 presidential election." In a statement, DHS said the "breaking news" report was not only wrong and hyped but is also being ripped by other media.

### **Group with ties to Obama, Clinton calls to restrict overseas U.S. military voting**

After years of accusing states of voter suppression, the Center for American Progress, citing election security, wants to make voting tougher for Americans serving overseas in the military.

### **California: AG Threatens to Sue if Trump Administration Places Citizenship Question on Census**

California Attorney General Xavier Becerra is threatening to sue if the Trump administration includes a question regarding citizenship on the 2020 census.

### **Kansas City Star: What to wear at polls? High court will have a say on that**

The Supreme Court on Feb. 28 will consider a challenge to the state's law, in a case that could affect other states, too. Two voters who defied elections officials — one who wore a "Please I.D. Me" button and another who wore both a button and tea party T-shirt — were asked to cover up or remove the items.

### **Pennsylvania's districts gerrymandered to favor Democrats**

About the Democratic gerrymander map: This map is drawn to maximize the number of districts that usually vote Democratic.

## STATES

### **Arkansas: Local Arkansans vote for 1st time with new voter ID laws**

Local Arkansans flocked to the polls for the first time under the state's new voter ID laws Tuesday.

### **New Mexico: Local Officials Indicted for Voter Fraud**

A grand jury indicted Laura Seeds, the wife of city councilor and mayoral candidate Robert Seeds, on 13 charges of voter fraud, including two counts of making false statements relative to the municipal election code, conspiracy to violate the municipal election code and 10 counts of unlawful possession of an absentee ballot in a municipal election.

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## **Texas: Suspicious Mail Ballots Trigger Midterm Voter Fraud Fears in Dallas County, Say Officials**

With a primary election a few weeks away, Dallas County officials say they already received suspicious mail-in ballots, triggering election integrity vigilance in the wake of last year's voter fraud scandal engulfing two city council races.

## **Texas: Court Hears Challenge of Texas' Judicial Elections System**

A federal judge is hearing arguments on whether Texas' statewide elections to choose judges for its highest criminal and civil courts violate the Voting Rights Act by deliberately diluting Hispanic voting power.

## **Texas: Voter Fraud Gaining More Attention in Valley**

A few arrests have been made out of Starr County. The district attorney's office is examining the county voter rolls and is looking for people who voted illegally. The DA's concerns include mail-in ballot application fraud, unlawful influencing of voters and illegal voting by non-residents and non-citizens.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Arizona: Senate president to amend redistricting commission overhaul**

A raft of changes is coming to a Republican-led effort to overhaul the Arizona commission responsible for redrawing the state's congressional and legislative district boundaries.

### **Pennsylvania: Top court redraws voting map in boost to Democrats**

Pennsylvania's top court on Monday unveiled a new map carving out the state's U.S. congressional voting districts, imposing a plan it said was based on "traditional criteria" after rejecting a proposal drawn up by Republican lawmakers as unconstitutional. The court-imposed plan could help Democrats who want to gain control of the U.S. Congress in the November midterm elections.

### **Virginia: Former Virginia governor Terry McAuliffe to travel country on redistricting effort**

Former Virginia governor Terry McAuliffe, a potential 2020 Democratic presidential candidate, says he plans to barnstorm 20 states this year to help Democrats win greater control of state legislative maps.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 05, 2018 9:59 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** Election Integrity Bulletin: President Trump calls NC Redistricting Decision Unfair; Non-Citizen Voters Identified in Cities Across the U.S.

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President Trump calls North Carolina redistricting [ruling 'unfair,'](#) and Republicans [warn of chaos](#) in election after the ruling. Trump also [vows to fight censorship](#) of conservatives by social media firms. [A new report](#) finds thousands of foreign nationals registered to vote in 13 cities across the country. A [Virginia Democrat](#) accuses his party of gerrymandering with a proposed map. More voting and redistricting news in the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).

## LEAD

### Trump Calls North Carolina Redistricting Ruling 'Unfair'

President Trump tore into a court's ruling this week that struck down the state's GOP-drawn redistricting map as an unconstitutional gerrymander, suggesting that "there has to be something going on. How unfair is that?" Trump said during a speech at a GOP fundraising event.

## FEDERAL

### Reuters: Trump Vows to Fight Censorship of Conservatives by Social Media Firms

President Donald Trump told a campaign-style rally in Indiana that his administration is standing up for free-speech rights, warning that large social media companies could not be allowed to "control what we can and cannot see." "You look at Google, Facebook, Twitter and other social media giants and I made it clear that we as a country cannot tolerate political censorship, blacklisting and rigged search results," Trump said.

### Daily Caller: Thousands of Foreign Nationals Registered to Vote in 13 Sanctuary Cities

More than 3,000 foreign nationals were removed from voter rolls across 13 sanctuary jurisdictions from 2006 to 2018, according to Public Interest Legal Foundation research released. The study, which collected data on 13 sanctuary cities and counties in seven different states, discovered that approximately 3,120 non-U.S. citizens had been removed, and that some of those non-citizens had cast votes in U.S. elections.

## STATES

### Alaska: Investigation into 17 Voter Registrations Trace to Single Mobile Home

A potential investigation hangs over an Alaska State House Republican primary after the race came down to a few votes, but irregularities like 17 voter registrations that trace back to a single mobile home address caught the attention of the Alaska Division of Elections. Incumbent Gabrielle LeDoux leads challenger Aaron Weaver by 113 votes after Tuesday's election, but at least 26 absentee ballots for LeDoux are classified as "suspect" by the state Division of Elections, reported KTVA.

### Arizona: Human Error Plagues Arizona Primary Voting

For all the worries about Russian hackers and other cyber-vandals, voting problems this week in Arizona served as a reminder that one of the biggest threats to fair elections is plain old human error. That appeared to be the case during Tuesday's primary, when dozens of polling places in the state's most populous county opened late because the voter verification machinery had not been set up. Sixty-two of the county's 750 or so polling locations did not open first thing in the morning, though all were up and running before noon.

### Kentucky: Attorney General Promises 'Due Diligence' on SOS Grimes Allegations

Democratic Attorney General Andy Beshear says his office will move with the appropriate speed in its

handling of new ethics complaints against Secretary of State Alison Lundergan Grimes, but Republicans are skeptical. Beshear confirmed his office received a copy of the letter from State Board of Elections director Jared Dearing, accusing Grimes – a fellow Democrat – of misusing Kentucky’s voter database and directing staff not to follow a federal court order.

### **Nevada: DMV Instructed Employees to Register Non-Citizens to Vote**

Nevada’s Secretary of State Barbara Cegavske blamed the Department of Motor Vehicles voter registration process for adding people to the state voter rolls who were not U.S. Citizens in a letter. “It has come to our attention that when offering voter registration opportunities to customers, DMV’s employees offer voter registration materials to DMV customers whom they know to be non-citizens based upon their presentation of a Green Card for identification purposes,” according to Cegavske. “Moreover, we now have confirmed that some non-citizens illegally cast votes in the 2016 election.”

### **New York: Where Are All the Voters Without an ID?**

Documentary filmmaker Ami Horowitz interviewed minorities in East Harlem to see if they have identification. Their response? Of course, I have an ID! “Why would someone think I don’t have an ID?” When asked if they knew anyone without ID or anyone who could not afford to get ID, all answered no. Some thought it was rude and ignorant to assume they had no ID or that they were unable to figure out how to get one.

### **North Carolina: N.C. Supreme Court Halts Printing Election Ballots Amid NAACP Challenge**

The North Carolina Supreme Court ordered the state’s elections board to halt preparation of voting ballots amid a legal challenge from the NAACP. The N.C. Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement was supposed to begin Aug. 17, so that absentee ballots could be sent by Sept. 7. “Ballot layout and printing vendors require at least twenty-one days for ballot production,” Lawson wrote in an email. “A prior stay effectively reduced the absentee period to the federal minimum, beginning September 22.”

### **North Carolina: Judges Rule Rewritten NC Constitutional Amendments Can Appear on Ballot**

The rewritten questions that frame two proposed amendments to the North Carolina Constitution should remain on November ballots, a panel of state judges ruled Friday. The questions had been rewritten after some of the same judges blocked earlier versions of the referendums. The three trial judges unanimously denied a motion sought by Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper to block the amendments. A quick appeal by Cooper to the state Supreme Court is now expected, perhaps later Friday, as state elections officials are up against a timeline to begin arranging and printing state ballots.

### **Texas: Texas Attorney General Investigating Alleged Gregg County Voter Fraud**

The Texas Attorney’s General Office is sending agents to investigate voter fraud in Gregg County. In May a fraud complaint was made in regard to the absentee ballots for Precinct Four’s Commissioners race. Former Longview Councilwoman Kasha Williams lost the race due to five absentee ballots. The complaint suspects someone paid for those votes.

### **Texas: Tarrant County Woman Who Voted Illegally is Ordered Back to Federal Prison**

A Tarrant County woman who voted illegally in the 2016 presidential election while on supervised release will have to go back to federal prison. A federal judge in Fort Worth ruled that Crystal Mason, 43, must spend 10 months behind bars followed by 26 months of supervised release.

### **Texas: Election Judge May Carry a Firearm in Performance of Official Duties**

Texas attorney general says election judges can start packing heat. Election workers who run polling places now have the state’s blessing to carry guns there. In an opinion released Tuesday, Attorney General Ken Paxton said so-called election judges who are licensed to carry a firearm can do so during the performance of their official duties. The opinion was issued after a Republican lawmaker raised concerns about the safety of these poll workers in rural areas.

## **REDISTRICTING**

Missouri Redistricting Initiative Facing Court Challenge

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000247

Republican-aligned attorneys urged a judge Friday to block people from voting on a Missouri ballot measure that could upend political power at the Capitol by requiring state legislative districts to be drawn to achieve "partisan fairness" and "competitiveness." The lawyers argued that the so-called Clean Missouri initiative, which also would bar lawmakers from accepting lobbyist gifts worth more than \$5, violates the state constitution by addressing multiple subjects.

### **N.C. Republicans Warn of 'Unmitigated Chaos' After Judges Strike Down House District Maps**

The top Republicans in North Carolina's General Assembly say they will appeal to the Supreme Court to overturn a federal court ruling striking down the state's U.S. House district maps. They will ask the U.S. Supreme Court to stay an appeals court ruling that ordered new maps drawn before November's midterm elections, which are 69 days away. The panel gave plaintiffs and respondents until Friday to suggest a path forward, one that could lead to new district lines being drawn just days before the state Board of Elections has to print ballots for midterm elections on Nov. 6.

### **Virginia: Virginia Democrat Accuses His Party of Gerrymandering**

Virginia state Democrat accused his party of "gerrymandering in response to gerrymandering" during a special session of the Virginia state legislature. "It's a self-serving political power grab," state Del. Steve Heretick said, according to The Washington Post. "It's gerrymandering in response to gerrymandering. It's tit for tat." Virginia Democrats proposed a redistricting map that Republicans, as well as Heretick, have criticized.

**The American Civil Rights Union**

3213 Duke St., #625

Alexandria, VA 22314

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 06, 2018 9:58 AM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** Election Integrity Bulletin - Voter Fraud Arrests in Texas; ACUR files Amicus to Supreme Court in North Carolina Redistricting Litigation

**After ACUR sues to protect the integrity of the voter rolls in Starr County, Texas, the District Attorney makes second voter fraud arrest. And ACUR files amicus brief to Supreme Court to support Emergency Stay in North Carolina redistricting litigation. You can read the entire [Election Integrity Bulletin](#) and [Amicus Brief](#).**

## LEAD

### **After ACUR lawsuit, Second Voter Fraud Arrest Made in Texas Border Investigation**

Police in South Texas arrested a second person in the Starr County DA's growing voter fraud investigation. The suspect allegedly submitted a ballot by mail application for a deceased voter. Starr County District Attorney Omar Escobar's voter fraud investigation led to charges being filed against 37-year-old Erika Lozano-Pelayo. Note: A lawsuit was filed by the American Civil Rights Union (ACUR) in 2016 which alleges that the county was violating the National Voting Rights Act by failing to keep an accurate list of registered voters.

## FEDERAL

### **ACUR files amicus brief in support of Emergency Stay with Supreme Court in the case of North Carolina v. Covington.**

ACUR tells the Supreme Court that the district court undermined judicial credibility by imposing a last minute legislative map on North Carolina, using a series of highly novel factual findings and legal theories.

### **Secretaries of state call court ruling a case of unprecedented overreach**

A ruling by a federal three-judge panel in the Covington v. North Carolina legislative redistricting lawsuit threatens to upset state election laws on a national scale through unprecedented court overreach, eight secretaries of state say in a legal filing.

### **Daily Signal: The Only Misleading Claim About Voter Fraud: 'It Doesn't Exist'**

When it comes to election fraud, the question is not "if," but "how much?" For years, The Heritage Foundation has been documenting instances of proven election fraud in an online, searchable database.

As of this writing, Heritage has gathered 1,107 such instances, spread across 47 states.

## STATES

### **Florida: Politician with hidden felony cocaine record voted illegally for two decades**

A sitting commissioner in the sleepy Miami-Dade coastal town of North Bay Village, Hornsby was removed from office Monday after government officials determined he was never eligible to take his post. Turns out, the septuagenarian omitted an unresolved, 25-year-old felony cocaine conviction in Tennessee from his voting registration forms after he moved to Florida in the '90s, making him an illegal voter and an illegitimate elected official.

### **Texas: Starr County Voter Fraud Investigators Make Second Arrest**

Starr County investigators looking into voter fraud say they have made a second arrest in the case. Yesterday, county DA Omar Escobar confirmed the arrest of Erika Lozano for allegedly filling out a ballot in the name of a dead person.

## REDISTRICTING

**AMERICAN OVERSIGHT**  
RSLC Press Release: Six Secretaries of State Oppose Eleventh-Hour Overreach by Liberal State Supreme Court

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000249

Six Secretaries of State filed an Amicus Brief today with the U.S. Supreme Court supporting the Emergency Application for Stay requested by Pennsylvania's Speaker of the House. The Secretaries point out in their brief, the court's eleventh-hour order, as preparations for the 2018 elections are beginning, is a "recipe for chaos" with significant practical implications that burden voters and the state.

### **North Carolina: Drawing Dem-Friendly Congressional Districts in North Carolina Isn't as Easy as You Think**

The point is, even if North Carolina had an independent redistricting commission—which we should—Republicans would probably come out ahead, just not as far ahead.

### **North Carolina: Election map urgency based on spin**

In both cases, the trial courts acted in irregular ways that step on North Carolina's longstanding electoral redistricting process. Placed in proper context, the trial judges' rush to rewrite North Carolina's electoral landscape might raise some red flags.

### **Pennsylvania: U.S. Supreme Court to consider Pennsylvania redistricting stay**

With election deadlines approaching quickly, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito signaled he will consider temporarily blocking a state Supreme Court order to rewrite congressional district boundaries.

**The American Civil Rights Union**

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 02, 2018 9:17 AM EDT

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** Election Integrity Bulletin: Voter Fraud on LA Skid Row; Double Voting in New Hampshire, Again; North Dakota Voter ID is Back

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**Voter fraud crack down on [Los Angeles Skid Row](#).** The U.S. House of Representatives [passes resolution](#) to admonish cities who give non-citizen aliens voting rights. [New Hampshire](#) charges a third person with voting in two states. Texas hits a [record 16 million](#) registered voters. And a [panel of federal judges](#) revive the North Dakota voter ID law for the 2018 election and beyond. There is much more... in this edition of the [Election Integrity Bulletin](#).

## LEAD

### LA Skid Row, California: LAPD Cracks Down on Voter Fraud

Los Angeles Police Department officer Deon Joseph knows his way around Skid Row. It's been his beat for the last 20 years. And while it's not hard to find serious crime problems along the tent-covered sidewalks here, Joseph keyed in on one you wouldn't necessarily associate with Skid Row. "This is where they do most of the voter registration fraud," he said, pointing to the sidewalk in front of the Midnight Mission. "It's been going on for years." So far this year, the department has arrested seven people for voter fraud but Joseph says the first four charges were bumped down from felonies to misdemeanors. "It may not be the biggest deal to the average person out there," Joseph said. "But this is an assault on our democracy."

## FEDERAL

### House of Representatives Passes Resolution to Condemn Localities Giving Non-Citizens the Right to Vote

Last week, about 71 Democrats and one Republican — Rep. Justin Amash (R-MI) — voted against House Resolution 1071, which admonishes localities for giving illegal aliens and noncitizens voting rights. Another 69 House Democrats voted "present" on the resolution, while 49 Democrats joined 230 House Republicans to support the measure. The resolution calls out localities for giving local voting rights to illegal aliens and noncitizens, noting that giving noncitizens the right to vote disenfranchises American citizens from the electoral process.

### Washington Examiner Editorial: Will the US Census Citizenship Question be Censored?

Bottom of FormThe 2020 Census intends to ask the question: Are you a U.S. citizen? The question is simply a matter of gathering data for determining congressional seats, distributing federal money, and protecting voting rights at the Justice Department. As long ago as the 2000 Census, numbers revealed that over 18 million non-citizen persons were counted above the total number of citizens. The Trump administration has met with resistance to reinstating the citizenship question, which was last asked on the Census in 1950.

## STATE

### Alabama: Gordon Mayor Facing Charges of Voter Fraud

A Houston County grand jury returned indictments against Melton on three charges of absentee ballot fraud and one charge of second-degree theft of property.

### California: Los Angeles County Supervisors Approve Investigation for Voter Registration 'Errors'

The Los Angeles Board of Supervisor unanimously approved a motion calling for an investigation into voter registration errors as a result of the new "motor voter" program managed by the California Department of Motor Vehicles. The state reported that 23,000 instances of voter registration errors occurred between

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000251



mid-April and early August.

### **New Hampshire: Third Person Charged in New Hampshire with Double Voting**

New Hampshire authorities have brought charges against a third person accused of voting in two states in the 2016 general election. The attorney general's office said Wednesday that 20-year-old Spencer McKinnon cast a ballot in Durham while also voting by absentee ballot in Dracut, Massachusetts. He faces up to seven years in prison if convicted.

### **New Jersey: When the Dead Remain Active in Politics**

Former Gov. Brendan Byrne once joked that he would have liked to be buried in Hudson County, so he could remain active in politics. It seems, however, dead people all across the state sometimes get that opportunity according to a report by NJ101.5.

### **North Dakota: Federal Judges Revive North Dakota Voter ID Law on Appeal**

North Dakota voters will have to show identification that includes a street address before they can cast a ballot in November, a federal court ruled. While opponents had successfully sued to block the provision, a St. Louis-based U.S. appeals court put that lower court order on hold. In a 2-1 ruling, the majority concluded that to do otherwise would cause irreparable harm to North Dakota's secretary of state, who is responsible for Election Day ballot collection.

### **Texas: Voter Registration Rolls Climb to Nearly 16 Million for Mid-Term Election**

The Texas Secretary of State's Office reports that the state's number of registered voters set a new record — growing to nearly 16 million voters. This represents an increase of 1.6 million voters since the 2014 elections that swept a new slate of Republicans into statewide offices.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **North Carolina: North Carolina Legislative Remap Challenges Still in Court**

Court arguments on General Assembly district lines that Republican legislators originally approved seven years ago have yet to be exhausted as state judges Friday weighed whether lines for several House seats should revert to how they were drawn in 2011.

### **Texas: Redistricting Group Led by Eric Holder to Invest \$250K in Texas House Races**

The National Democratic Redistricting Committee, the group led by former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, is making a quarter-million-dollar investment in Texas to help Democrats here flip a number of state House seats in November.

### **Virginia: Republicans Advance New Legislative Map**

Virginia Republican lawmakers have advanced a new legislative map aimed at fixing an unconstitutional racial gerrymander ahead of a court-ordered deadline. The legislation now moves to the full House for consideration and has to be approved by the GOP-led Senate and signed by Democratic Gov. Ralph Northam.

**The American Civil Rights Union**

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**From:** The Daily Signal <morningbell@heritage.org>

**Sent:** Saturday, November 26, 2016 12:17 PM EST

**To:** Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net>

**Subject:** FACTS ABOUT DAKOTA ACCESS PIPELINE THAT PROTESTERS DON'T WANT YOU TO KNOW | What the Media Isn't Telling You About Trump's Cabinet Picks | The Real Alexander Hamilton Was No Liberal | Meet Betsy DeVos | Why Jeff Sessions Has Conservatives So Excited

Nov. 26, 2016

## We Looked at Cabinet Picks Over the Last 40 Years. Here's How Trump Stacks Up So Far.

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## Meet Betsy DeVos, Trump's Pick for Education Secretary

[READ THIS](#) | [TWEET IT](#) | [SHARE IT](#)

## The Facts About the Dakota Access Pipeline That Protesters Don't Want You to Know

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## Why Jeff Sessions, 'an Advocate for the Constitution,' Has Conservatives So Excited

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## The Real Alexander Hamilton Was No Liberal

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## WEEKEND READ

## Federal Judge Blocks Implementation of Controversial Overtime Rule

## POLICY PICTURE

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**From:** JW NewsWatch <press@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 14, 2019 2:33 PM EST

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** FBI General Counsel Talked to Hillary Clinton's Lawyer about Comey's Letter on Weiner Laptop Clinton Emails

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NEWSWATCH

## KEY RELEASE

600x300

### FBI General Counsel Talked to Hillary Clinton's Lawyer about Comey's Letter on Weiner Laptop Clinton Emails

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

The documents also further describe a previously reported quid pro quo from the Obama State Department offering the FBI more legal attaché positions if it would downgrade a redaction in an email found during the Hillary Clinton email investigation "from classified to something else."

☐ [READ MORE](#)

## MAJOR MEDIA REPORTS

180x150x1

2019-02-13

**FBI's top brass  
raced to handle Fox  
News inquiry on  
alleged quid pro quo  
over Clinton emails,  
new documents  
show**

Source: [Fox News](#)

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000255

The 10 pages of email traffic from mid-October 2016, just weeks before the presidential election, were obtained by Judicial Watch as part of a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit and were revealed Monday.

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180x150x2

2019-02-12

**New Emails Confirm FBI Tried To Work Deal With State Dept To Minimize Hillary Email Scandal**

Source: [The Daily Wire](#)

Over two years after the fact, newly released FBI emails obtained via a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request confirm that James Comey's FBI attempted to work out a quid pro quo deal with the Obama State Department to help minimize the Hillary Clinton private email server scandal just weeks before the 2016 election.

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180x150x3

2019-02-13

**Did the FBI try to work out quid pro quo with State Dept over Hillary Clinton email investigation?**

Source: [TheBlaze](#)

Conservative government watchdog group Judicial Watch released new government

correspondence from  
October 2016 confirming  
the FBI asked for the quid  
pro quo, which involved  
former State Department  
Undersecretary Patrick  
Kennedy and the FBI "over  
at least one classified  
email."

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## QUOTABLE

100x100

"These documents further underscore that the fix was in for Hillary Clinton. When will the Justice Department and FBI finally do an honest investigation of the Clinton email scandal?"

- **Tom Fitton**  
**Judicial Watch**

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

Tom Fitton: El Paso Region is 'Freeway' for Drug/Human Trafficking & Terrorism

February 11, 2019- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "Lou Dobbs Tonight" on the Fox Business Network to discuss a 'sophisticated narco-terror network' in El Paso, TX.

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Article-Image

## Tom Fitton: Democrats in Congress on a 'fishing expedition' for President Trump

February 7, 2019- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on One America News Network to discuss the Democrat-controlled Congress opening investigations into President Trump.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Friday, December 28, 2018 1:42 PM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** Federal judge permits trial to determine constitutionality citizenship question in the 2020 census; Florida environmental group flooded election offices with phony voter registration forms; more voter fraud reports

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A federal judge has paved the way for a trial to determine the constitutionality of including [the citizenship question on the 2020 census form](#); in Florida an environmental group [flooded election offices with phony voter registration forms](#); additional fraud reports pour in from [Idaho](#), [New Hampshire](#), [North Carolina](#) and [Virginia](#); and California's [disgraced DMV chief finally resigns](#). Read all about it in [this week's EIB](#).

## LEAD

### Ken Blackwell: Voter Fraud Damages our Nation's Integrity

As Christmas approaches in the Sunshine State, November voters have become December shoppers unlikely to be contemplating the integrity and importance of their voting system. Two years before the very public 2018 voting integrity disaster in Broward County at the hands of election supervisor Brenda Snipes, the American Civil Rights Union — a Washington, D.C.-based civil rights organization — filed suit against Snipes alleging she violated civil rights and election law by failing to ensure and maintain accurate voter registration rolls. ACRU vs. Snipes is scheduled for oral arguments before the U.S. Eleventh Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals in March. The high visibility of this case will again bring heated debate to concerns with Florida's voting system, its fairness to each vote cast, the honesty of those running the system and the state's critical role in national elections

## FEDERAL

### The Hill: Federal Judge Orders Trial Over Census Citizenship Question

A federal judge Wednesday rejected a request from the Trump administration to dismiss a lawsuit challenging its addition of a question regarding citizenship to the 2020 census. U.S. District Court Judge George J. Hazel's ruling paves the way for a trial in January to determine if the question is constitutional.

## STATES

### Alabama: An Election Hacked - by Democrats

Democratic tech experts organized a deceptive stealth campaign using social media and bots to discredit one candidate and even siphon votes from him to a randomly chosen third-party hopeful. As The New York Times reports, it was a secret project, carried out on Facebook and Twitter, by Democratic tech experts, with one purpose: to weaken the Republican candidate in the 2017 Alabama special election for a U.S. Senate seat. An internal report boasts that "we created an elaborate 'false flag' operation that planted the idea" that GOP candidate Roy Moore's campaign "was amplified on social media by a Russian botnet." It also created a social-media boost for obscure independent candidate Mac Watson, in hopes of drawing votes from Moore. And it worked, getting Watson an interview with The Washington Post.

### California: DMV Head to Be Replaced in New Year Amid Continued Problems with California's 'Motor Voter' Program

California's troubled Department of Motor Vehicles will get a new leader Dec. 31. Gov. Jerry Brown has designated Bill Davidson as acting director. Davidson has served as the DMV's chief deputy director since 2016 and has worked at the agency for 16 years. He's also worked for the California State Transportation Agency. The Monday announcement comes after director Jean Shiimoto announced plans to retire at the end of the year. Shiimoto's departure follows a tumultuous year for the DMV that included hours-long lines at offices across the state and a series of errors related to the state's automatic voter registration program.

California: 'Motor Voter' Was a Disaster Waiting to Happen—and It Did

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000259

Secretary of State Alex Padilla's "motor voter" program is a disaster and ought to be shut until it is fixed. In September, the Department of Motor Vehicles admitted it made 23,000 erroneous registrations. Serious questions about the integrity of the program must be answered. Expanding access is worse than worthless without voting integrity. This is not a partisan issue. It's about protecting the righteousness of our election system, which is a sacred responsibility in a democracy and one that rests with the Secretary of State.

#### **Florida: Florida Environmental Group Tied to Voter Registration Forms That Had False Information**

Workers hired by a Florida environmental group submitted hundreds of voter registration forms with false and incomplete information, which led to voter confusion and a state recommendation to investigate some forms as possible election fraud. Sixteen employees of the Florida Conservation Voters Education Fund were fired in September after submitting more than 200 voter registration forms with false or incomplete information to the Volusia County elections office, records obtained from the environmental group show. "We were having an awful time," said Lisa Lewis, Volusia's elections supervisor. "I later found out that they were being paid to collect these forms and I think they were just filling them out to get paid."

#### **Florida: Florida Elections Chief Brenda Snipes Sues Rick Scott to Rescind Her Resignation**

Broward County elections chief Brenda Snipes is suing outgoing Florida governor Rick Scott to get her job back after flip-flopping on whether she still wanted it. Snipes filed a federal lawsuit against the Republican governor and Senate president Bill Galvano alleging that she had been denied due process and that it is unconstitutional to suspend elected officials such as herself. After coming under fire for mismanagement during the midterm elections and recounts for the Senate and governor's races, Snipes submitted her resignation to Scott, effective January 4. But she decided to take back her resignation and fight Scott after he suspended her in the interim for malfeasance, incompetence, and neglect of duty. The governor, however, declined to grant Snipes her job back.

#### **Idaho: County to Change Procedures After Discovering Uncounted Ballots**

The Bonner County Elections office is making some changes to the way they count and track ballots after discovering 396 uncounted absentee ballots in a drawer last week. "I have no idea why that last drawer wasn't opened," said County Clerk Michael Rosedale. The uncounted votes did not change the outcome of any races from the Nov. 6 election, Rosedale said, making the mishap a much smaller ordeal than it could have been. "While it represented 2% of the vote and had no effect on outcomes, it still was something that never should have happened," wrote Rosedale on the county's website below the new election results. "I and my staff are very sorry, not to mention terribly embarrassed and have adopted measures already that will preclude this type of error from ever happening again."

#### **Maine: LePage, Calling Ranked-Choice Voting 'Repugnant'**

Gov. Paul LePage declined to get involved in Rep. Bruce Poliquin's latest legal request, but not without getting in another dig at a ranked-choice voting process he views as "repugnant." Meanwhile, attorneys for Poliquin and Maine Secretary of State Matthew Dunlap sparred over whether Dunlap exceeded his authority by certifying Democrat Jared Golden as the winner of Maine's 2nd District race without LePage's signature. "Under the U.S. Constitution, it is now up to the United States House of Representatives to determine, when it convenes on January 3, 2019, whether to seat Jared Golden, who is the undisputed winner of the ranked-choice voting tabulation under the RCV Act and thus the Representative-elect for Maine's Second Congressional District," Assistant Attorney General Phyllis Gardiner wrote on Dunlap's behalf.

#### **New Hampshire: 78 Cases of Potential Voter Fraud Under Investigation**

The New Hampshire Attorney General's office says it is investigating or reviewing 78 cases of potential voter fraud that emerged after the November 2016 general election. WMUR-TV reports office spokesperson Kate Spiner said Tuesday 61 of the 78 cases are potential double-voting issues that appeared through the Interstate Voter Registration Crosscheck program. Spiner says they have received 38 complaints of wrongful voting in addition to the Crosscheck cases. She says 21 of those cases were closed as unfounded, and 17 remain under review or investigation. Four people have been indicted on criminal charges in connection to voter fraud since November 2016. The fourth indictment was issued last week to a Florida man who allegedly cast a ballot in Hooksett in 2016.

#### **New Hampshire: Florida Man Charged with Illegally Voting in New Hampshire in 2016**

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000260



A Florida man is facing charges that he voted illegally in Hooksett during the 2016 general election. The New Hampshire Attorney General's office announced the charges against 45-year-old Michael L. Lewis, of Miami, on Monday. But the Hooksett Police Department first referred Lewis to the state for investigation roughly two years ago. Officers initially arrested Lewis for operating without a valid driver's license but referred the case to the state for further investigation. Officials could not say why it took until now to bring any further charges. A Merrimack County grand jury indicted Lewis on charges that he voted in Hooksett despite not being qualified to do so. An arraignment hasn't been scheduled.

### **New Jersey: Candidate Wants Voter ID Added to Ballot Reforms**

State Senate Candidate Michael Testa on Thursday called for Gov. Phil Murphy to add a voter ID provision to a slew of voter-access reforms Murphy announced support for on Wednesday. "A statewide Voter ID law would require any potential voter to provide photo identification at the polls or accompanying their Vote-By-Mail ballot the same as they would when renting a car, buying a six pack, or getting on an airplane," Testa said. "This is a commonsense step that would give each and every citizen confidence that our voting system is free from fraud or manipulation. Moreover, I would be supportive of a companion bill that provided state funding to provide state or county-sanctioned photo ID's to any citizen that doesn't otherwise have one."

### **North Carolina: Voter ID Becomes Law in North Carolina as House Overrides Veto**

North Carolina voters will be asked to show photo identification when they go to the polls next year, barring intervention by a court. The Republican-led legislature took the final step to shrug off Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper's veto of its photo ID bill, with the House voting 72-40 Wednesday to override after a long debate that touched on the state's history of voter suppression. The Senate took its override vote Tuesday. Minutes after the House vote, the Southern Coalition for Social Justice announced a lawsuit challenging the voter ID law had been filed in Wake County Superior Court.

### **North Carolina: Yes, What Happened in North Carolina Is Voter Fraud**

More than a month after the November election, the details of an apparent voter fraud scandal orchestrated by a North Carolina Republican operative are still coming to light. A coordinated absentee ballot harvesting ring may have gathered, tampered with, or destroyed hundreds of ballots. The outcome of the House race in North Carolina's 9th Congressional District hangs in the balance, and the state elections board may order a new election.

### **Virginia: Election Watchdog Threatens to Sue Virginia for 'Inaccurate' Noncitizen Voting Records**

The Public Interest Legal Foundation (PILF), an election watchdog group, is threatening to sue the Virginia Board of Elections unless it corrects voter roll maintenance procedures involving the removal of noncitizens. PILF published a pair of reports using noncitizen data supplied by the Board of Election, which erroneously identified several eligible citizens as ineligible noncitizen voters. That sparked a defamation lawsuit from the League of United Latin American Citizens, alleging "reckless" behavior and "spurious allegations of voter fraud."

### **Wisconsin: Eric Holder, Liberal Groups Fight Wisconsin Early Voting Restrictions in Federal Court**

A coalition of liberal groups, with the support of former Democratic U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, asked a federal judge to block implementation of early voting restrictions. Attorneys for the groups argued that Republicans called the lame-duck session "as part of a partisan attempt to retain and regain power" and the early voting limitation was "in direct violation" of the court's 2016 order. Holder, in a statement, said Walker and Republicans showed a "blatant disregard for a previous court ruling and refusal to listen to the will of the people."

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Fox News: Obama to Fold Organizing for Action Group in Effort to Focus on Gerrymandering Reform**

Former President Barack Obama is going all-in on gerrymandering reform by consolidating his nonprofit political organization group with another to double down on efforts on what has become his major focus since leaving the White House. Obama announced the consolidation of his Organizing for Action group

into the National Democratic Redistricting Committee during a call with supporters this week.

### **Fairlines: The 2020 Re-apportionment Forecast**

The Upper Midwest and Northeast are expected to see continued migration of representation to the South and West. Texas looks to gain its 6th, 7th, and 8th new members this century as Florida picks up its 5th and 6th. Four western states (Arizona, Colorado, Montana, and Oregon) would expand their delegations while North Carolina may gain the 14th seat it just missed in 2010. California is projected to lose a Congressional seat for the first time since it joined the Union. Illinois, Michigan, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania all appear likely to lose another seat, bringing their collective loss for the century to 19. Rhode Island is poised to join the ranks of At-Large states. West Virginia would replace Rhode Island as one of five states with only two members, and Minnesota is on the verge of losing the 8th seat it managed to just barely hold on to in 2010.

#### **The American Civil Rights Union**

3213 Duke St., #625

Alexandria, VA 22314

<http://www.theacru.org>

<http://www.votingintegrityinstitute.org>

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**From:** Tom Fitton <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 12:26 PM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Fighting the Deep State

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email originated from a non-COJ email address. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Judicial Watch

Dear Fellow American,

I'll be short and direct....

Judicial Watch continues to be very effective in our mission of standing firm for the rule of the law and going after corrupt politicians!

[And with your support today.](#) I promise we will continue to fight hard on those issues you care most about, like:

- **Our historic litigation exposing the abusive corruption of the Deep State.** We are now pursuing no fewer than 40 lawsuits to get to the bottom of this unprecedented conspiracy to target, spy on, discredit and eventually remove from office the duly elected President of the United States, Donald J. Trump.
- **Our incredibly successful mission to keep our national and local elections honest and combat voter fraud.** We recently signed comprehensive legal settlements with California and Kentucky to ensure cleaner election rolls. In fact, Los Angeles County will remove up to 1.56 "inactive" names thanks to Judicial Watch.
- **Our commitment to pursuing justice and accountability in the many scandals of the Obama administration.** For example, as I write you today, we are deposing senior Obama-era State Department officials, lawyers, and Clinton aides who were ordered by a federal court to provide answers under oath to Judicial Watch about the Benghazi and Clinton email scandals!
- **Our historic civil lawsuit against the city of San Francisco for its deadly "sanctuary" policy that goes to trial this summer.** The trial has taken on critical "precedential" importance as liberal mayors and governors have now established more than 500 sanctuary counties, cities and states across America.

As far as I'm concerned, we can't ever do enough to fight for the rule of law and for honest and open government! Because all too often, when it comes to using the courts to support the rule of law and transparency in government, Judicial Watch is still the "only game in town."

But as always, we are often opposed by taxpayer-funded lawyers and bureaucrats in the Deep State "permanent government" who fight against us and for government secrecy no matter who is in the White House!

[That's why your support today is so important.](#)

Personally, I can't think of a time in our twenty-five year history that a strong and impactful Judicial Watch has been more important to our nation.

[That's why I hope you will join the fight today by making your most generous tax-deductible contribution to Judicial Watch.](#) *Please know that whatever you donate now will have a tremendous impact in our fight for the rule of law in 2019!*

Sincerely,

Thomas Fitton  
President

Judicial Watch, Inc.  
425 Third Street SW, Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20024

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Judicial Watch is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.  
Contributions are received from individuals,  
foundations, and corporations and are tax-  
deductible to the extent allowed by law.

UNSUBSCRIBE

**From:** JW Weekly Update Video Special Edition <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 23, 2019 11:18 AM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Fitton on Mueller Report Release: Trump must go on “Transparency Tear” to end hoax.

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## Weekly Update Special Edition

Fitton on Mueller Report Release: Trump must go on “Transparency Tear” to end hoax.

[Weekly Update](#)



[WU01](#)



Judicial Watch, Inc.  
425 3rd St Sw Ste 800  
Washington, DC 20024

202.646.5172

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**From:** Public Record Request  
**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 9:59 AM EDT  
**To:** ITDPRR <ITDPRR@coj.net>  
**CC:** Bethea, Stan <SBethea@coj.net>  
**Subject:** FW: FW: Public Records Request \*\*2019-127884  
**Attachment(s):** "FL-DUVAL-19-0522.pdf"

Good morning,

Please see the following request:

Date Range: November 9, 2016 to May 6, 2019  
Email Account: All COJ Employees  
Search Term:

Thank you,

**Angie Wilson**  
*Public Records Requests Coordinator*  
City of Jacksonville | Customer Service Center  
214 N. Hogan Street Suite 1180  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
(904) 630-7674  
630CITY.coj.net



ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

**Please note that under Florida's very broad public records law, communications to and from City of Jacksonville officials are subject to public disclosure.**

---

**From:** Bethea, Stan <SBethea@coj.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 8:46 AM  
**To:** Public Record Request <PRR@coj.net>  
**Subject:** FW: FW: Public Records Request

Please fulfil this request.

Thanks,



***Stan Bethea***

Director of Information Services  
Duval County Supervisor of Elections  
1 Imeson Park Blvd, Bldg. 100  
Jacksonville, FL 32218  
Office: 904-630-8022  
[www.DuvalElections.com](http://www.DuvalElections.com)

**UPCOMING ELECTION DATE**

City of Jacksonville General Election  
May 14, 2019

**From:** Beth France [<mailto:beth.france@americanoversight.org>]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2019 3:25 PM  
**To:** Hogan, Mike  
**Subject:** Public Records Request

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000266

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email originated from a non-COJ email address. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Public Records Officer:

Please find attached a request for records under Florida's public records law.

Sincerely,

Beth France  
Counsel  
American Oversight  
[foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org) | 202.897.2465  
[www.americanoversight.org](http://www.americanoversight.org) | @weareoversight

FL-DUVAL-19-0522



April 22, 2019

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Mike Hogan  
Duval County Supervisor of Elections  
105 East Monroe Street  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
[mhogan@coj.net](mailto:mhogan@coj.net)

**Re: Public Records Request**

Dear Public Records Officer:

Pursuant to the Florida's public records law, as codified at Fla. Stat. Chapter 119, American Oversight makes the following request for public records.

**Requested Records**

American Oversight requests that Duval County promptly produce the following:

All communications (including emails, email attachments, text messages, calendar invitations/entries, letters, memoranda, or other communications) between any county elections official and any of the individuals or entities listed below:

- Kris Kobach (including communications from [kkobach@gmail.com](mailto:kkobach@gmail.com), [kris@kriskobach.com](mailto:kris@kriskobach.com), or any email addresses ending in ks.gov)
- J. (John) Christian Adams
- Hans von Spakovsky
- John R. Lott Jr.
- Ken Block
- Donal Palmer
- Robert Popper
- Catherine Engelbrecht
- Christy McCormick (including communications with [cacm@aol.com](mailto:cacm@aol.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of the Election Law Center ([electionlawcenter.com](http://electionlawcenter.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of the Government Accountability Institute ([g-a-i.org](http://g-a-i.org))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Simpatico Software Systems ([simpaticosoftware.com](http://simpaticosoftware.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Judicial Watch ([judicialwatch.org](http://judicialwatch.org))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Heritage Foundation ([heritage.org](http://heritage.org))





- Anyone communicating on behalf of Heritage Action for America (heritageaction.com)
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Public Interest Legal Foundation (publicinterestlegal.org)
- Anyone communicating on behalf of American Civil Rights Union (theacru.org)
- Anyone communicating on behalf of True The Vote (truethetvote.org)

American Oversight believes that your office is the most likely location for the records it seeks. However, if other county boards, commissions, offices, departments, or divisions are likely to possess records responsive to this request, American Oversight asks that you forward this request to those boards, commissions, offices, departments, or divisions or promptly notify American Oversight so that it may submit this request directly to those boards, commissions, offices, departments, or divisions.

Please provide all responsive records from November 9, 2016, to the date the search is conducted.

American Oversight seeks all responsive records regardless of format, medium, or physical characteristics. In conducting your search, please understand the term “record” in its broadest sense, to include any written, typed, recorded, graphic, printed, or audio material of any kind. We seek records of any kind, including electronic records, audiotapes, videotapes, and photographs, as well as letters, emails, facsimiles, telephone messages, voice mail messages and transcripts, notes, or minutes of any meetings, telephone conversations or discussions. Our request includes any attachments to these records. **No category of material should be omitted from search, collection, and production.**

In addition, American Oversight insists that your office use the most up-to-date technologies to search for responsive information and take steps to ensure that the most complete repositories of information are searched. American Oversight is available to work with you to craft appropriate search terms. **However, custodian searches are still required; governmental authorities may not have direct access to files stored in .PST files, outside of network drives, in paper format, or in personal email accounts.**

Please search all records regarding official business, **including files or emails in the personal custody of your officials, such as personal email accounts.**

In the event some portions of the requested records are properly exempt from disclosure, please disclose any reasonably segregable non-exempt portions of the requested records. If it is your position that a document contains non-exempt segments, but that those non-exempt segments are so dispersed throughout the document as to make segregation impossible, please state what portion of the document is non-exempt, and how the material is dispersed throughout the document. If a request is denied in whole, please state specifically that it is not reasonable to segregate portions of the record for release.

Please take appropriate steps to ensure that records responsive to this request are not deleted by your office before the completion of processing for this request. If records potentially responsive to

this request are likely to be located on systems where they are subject to potential deletion, including on a scheduled basis, please take steps to prevent that deletion, including, as appropriate, by instituting a litigation hold on those records.

To ensure that this request is properly construed, that searches are conducted in an adequate but efficient manner, and that extraneous costs are not incurred, American Oversight welcomes an opportunity to discuss its request with you before you undertake your search or incur search or duplication costs. By working together at the outset, American Oversight and the Department of State can decrease the likelihood of costly and time-consuming litigation in the future.

Where possible, please provide responsive material in electronic format by email or in PDF or TIF format on a USB drive. Please send any responsive material being sent by mail to American Oversight, 1030 15th Street NW, Suite B255, Washington, DC 20005. If it will accelerate release of responsive records to American Oversight, please also provide responsive material on a rolling basis.

### **Conclusion**

We share a common mission to promote transparency in government. American Oversight looks forward to working with your office on this request. If you do not understand any part of this request, have any questions, or foresee any problems in fully releasing the requested records, please contact Beth France at [foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org) or 202.897.2465..

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Austin R. Evers", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Austin R. Evers  
Executive Director  
American Oversight

**From:** Public Record Request  
**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 10:00 AM EDT  
**To:** ITDPRR <ITDPRR@coj.net>  
**CC:** Bethea, Stan <SBethea@coj.net>; Feiser, Craig <CFeiser@coj.net>  
**Subject:** FW: Public Records Request \*\*2019-127884  
**Attachment(s):** "FL-DUVAL-19-0522.pdf"

Good morning,

Please see the following request:

Date Range: November 9, 2016 to May 6, 2019  
Email Account: All COJ Employees  
Search Term: Please see the attachment

Thank you,

**Angie Wilson**  
*Public Records Requests Coordinator*  
City of Jacksonville | Customer Service Center  
214 N. Hogan Street Suite 1180  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
(904) 630-7674  
630CITY.coj.net



ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

**Please note that under Florida's very broad public records law, communications to and from City of Jacksonville officials are subject to public disclosure.**

---

**From:** Bethea, Stan <SBethea@coj.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 8:46 AM  
**To:** Public Record Request <PRR@coj.net>  
**Subject:** FW: FW: Public Records Request

Please fulfil this request.

Thanks,



***Stan Bethea***

Director of Information Services  
Duval County Supervisor of Elections  
1 Imeson Park Blvd, Bldg. 100  
Jacksonville, FL 32218  
Office: 904-630-8022  
[www.DuvalElections.com](http://www.DuvalElections.com)

**UPCOMING ELECTION DATE**

City of Jacksonville General Election  
May 14, 2019

**From:** Beth France [<mailto:beth.france@americanoversight.org>]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2019 3:25 PM  
**To:** Hogan, Mike  
**Subject:** Public Records Request

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000271

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email originated from a non-COJ email address. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Public Records Officer:

Please find attached a request for records under Florida's public records law.

Sincerely,

Beth France

Counsel

American Oversight

[foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org) | 202.897.2465

[www.americanoversight.org](http://www.americanoversight.org) | @weareoversight

FL-DUVAL-19-0522



April 22, 2019

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Mike Hogan  
Duval County Supervisor of Elections  
105 East Monroe Street  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
[mhogan@coj.net](mailto:mhogan@coj.net)

**Re: Public Records Request**

Dear Public Records Officer:

Pursuant to the Florida's public records law, as codified at Fla. Stat. Chapter 119, American Oversight makes the following request for public records.

**Requested Records**

American Oversight requests that Duval County promptly produce the following:

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- Kris Kobach (including communications from [kkobach@gmail.com](mailto:kkobach@gmail.com), [kris@kriskobach.com](mailto:kris@kriskobach.com), or any email addresses ending in ks.gov)
- J. (John) Christian Adams
- Hans von Spakovsky
- John R. Lott Jr.
- Ken Block
- Donal Palmer
- Robert Popper
- Catherine Engelbrecht
- Christy McCormick (including communications with [cacm@aol.com](mailto:cacm@aol.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of the Election Law Center ([electionlawcenter.com](http://electionlawcenter.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of the Government Accountability Institute ([g-a-i.org](http://g-a-i.org))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Simpatico Software Systems ([simpaticosoftware.com](http://simpaticosoftware.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Judicial Watch ([judicialwatch.org](http://judicialwatch.org))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Heritage Foundation ([heritage.org](http://heritage.org))



- Anyone communicating on behalf of Heritage Action for America (heritageaction.com)
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Public Interest Legal Foundation (publicinterestlegal.org)
- Anyone communicating on behalf of American Civil Rights Union (theacru.org)
- Anyone communicating on behalf of True The Vote (truethetvote.org)

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Where possible, please provide responsive material in electronic format by email or in PDF or TIF format on a USB drive. Please send any responsive material being sent by mail to American Oversight, 1030 15th Street NW, Suite B255, Washington, DC 20005. If it will accelerate release of responsive records to American Oversight, please also provide responsive material on a rolling basis.

### **Conclusion**

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Austin R. Evers", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Austin R. Evers  
Executive Director  
American Oversight

**From:** Public Record Request <PRR@coj.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 10:00 AM EDT  
**To:** ITDPRR <ITDPRR@coj.net>  
**CC:** Bethea, Stan <SBethea@coj.net>; Feiser, Craig <CFeiser@coj.net>  
**Subject:** FW: Public Records Request \*\*2019-127884  
**Attachment(s):** "FL-DUVAL-19-0522.pdf"

Good morning,

Please see the following request:

Date Range: November 9, 2016 to May 6, 2019  
Email Account: All COJ Employees  
Search Term: Please see the attachment

Thank you,

**Angie Wilson**  
*Public Records Requests Coordinator*  
City of Jacksonville | Customer Service Center  
214 N. Hogan Street Suite 1180  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
(904) 630-7674  
630CITY.coj.net



ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

**Please note that under Florida's very broad public records law, communications to and from City of Jacksonville officials are subject to public disclosure.**

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**From:** Bethea, Stan <SBethea@coj.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 8:46 AM  
**To:** Public Record Request <PRR@coj.net>  
**Subject:** FW: FW: Public Records Request

Please fulfil this request.

Thanks,



***Stan Bethea***

Director of Information Services  
Duval County Supervisor of Elections  
1 Imeson Park Blvd, Bldg. 100  
Jacksonville, FL 32218  
Office: 904-630-8022  
[www.DuvalElections.com](http://www.DuvalElections.com)

**UPCOMING ELECTION DATE**

City of Jacksonville General Election  
May 14, 2019

**From:** Beth France [<mailto:beth.france@americanoversight.org>]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2019 3:25 PM  
**To:** Hogan, Mike  
**Subject:** Public Records Request

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000276



**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email originated from a non-COJ email address. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Public Records Officer:

Please find attached a request for records under Florida's public records law.

Sincerely,

Beth France  
Counsel  
American Oversight  
[foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org) | 202.897.2465  
[www.americanoversight.org](http://www.americanoversight.org) | @weareoversight

FL-DUVAL-19-0522



April 22, 2019

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Mike Hogan  
Duval County Supervisor of Elections  
105 East Monroe Street  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
[mhogan@coj.net](mailto:mhogan@coj.net)

**Re: Public Records Request**

Dear Public Records Officer:

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**Requested Records**

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- J. (John) Christian Adams
- Hans von Spakovsky
- John R. Lott Jr.
- Ken Block
- Donal Palmer
- Robert Popper
- Catherine Engelbrecht
- Christy McCormick (including communications with [cacm@aol.com](mailto:cacm@aol.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of the Election Law Center ([electionlawcenter.com](http://electionlawcenter.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of the Government Accountability Institute ([g-a-i.org](http://g-a-i.org))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Simpatico Software Systems ([simpaticosoftware.com](http://simpaticosoftware.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Judicial Watch ([judicialwatch.org](http://judicialwatch.org))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Heritage Foundation ([heritage.org](http://heritage.org))



- Anyone communicating on behalf of Heritage Action for America (heritageaction.com)
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Public Interest Legal Foundation (publicinterestlegal.org)
- Anyone communicating on behalf of American Civil Rights Union (theacru.org)
- Anyone communicating on behalf of True The Vote (truethevote.org)

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Austin R. Evers  
Executive Director  
American Oversight

**From:** Public Record Request <PRR@coj.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 10:35 AM EDT  
**To:** beth.france@americanoversight.org <beth.france@americanoversight.org>  
**CC:** Bethea, Stan <SBethea@coj.net>; Feiser, Craig <CFeiser@coj.net>  
**Subject:** FW: FW: Public Records Request  
**Attachment(s):** "FL-DUVAL-19-0522.pdf"

Good morning Beth,

Thank you for contacting the City of Jacksonville. Your public records request has been received and is being processed. Charges for copying as well as research may apply depending on the work required to retrieve the records. You will be notified if any charges are applicable.

Thank you,

**Angie Wilson**  
*Public Records Requests Coordinator*  
City of Jacksonville | Customer Service Center  
214 N. Hogan Street Suite 1180  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
(904) 630-7674  
630CITY.coj.net



ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

**Please note that under Florida's very broad public records law, communications to and from City of Jacksonville officials are subject to public disclosure.**

---

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**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 8:46 AM  
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Please fulfil this request.

Thanks,



***Stan Bethea***

Director of Information Services  
Duval County Supervisor of Elections  
1 Imeson Park Blvd, Bldg. 100  
Jacksonville, FL 32218  
Office: 904-630-8022  
[www.DuvalElections.com](http://www.DuvalElections.com)

**UPCOMING ELECTION DATE**

City of Jacksonville General Election  
May 14, 2019

**From:** Beth France [<mailto:beth.france@americanoversight.org>]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2019 3:25 PM  
**To:** Hogan, Mike  
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Counsel

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FL-DUVAL-19-0522



April 22, 2019

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Mike Hogan  
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Jacksonville, FL 32202  
[mhogan@coj.net](mailto:mhogan@coj.net)

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- John R. Lott Jr.
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- Christy McCormick (including communications with [cacm@aol.com](mailto:cacm@aol.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of the Election Law Center ([electionlawcenter.com](http://electionlawcenter.com))
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- Anyone communicating on behalf of Heritage Action for America (heritageaction.com)
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Executive Director  
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**Subject:** FW: Public Records Request  
**Attachment(s):** "FL-DUVAL-19-0522.pdf"

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**Subject:** Fwd: FW: Public Records Request

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FL-DUVAL-19-0522



April 22, 2019

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1 Imeson Park Blvd, Bldg. 100  
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Where possible, please provide responsive material in electronic format by email or in PDF or TIF format on a USB drive. Please send any responsive material being sent by mail to American Oversight, 1030 15th Street NW, Suite B255, Washington, DC 20005. If it will accelerate release of responsive records to American Oversight, please also provide responsive material on a rolling basis.

### **Conclusion**

We share a common mission to promote transparency in government. American Oversight looks forward to working with your office on this request. If you do not understand any part of this request, have any questions, or foresee any problems in fully releasing the requested records, please contact Beth France at [foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org) or 202.897.2465..

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Austin R. Evers", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Austin R. Evers  
Executive Director  
American Oversight

**From:** Public Record Request  
**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 10:35 AM EDT  
**To:** beth.france@americanoversight.org <beth.france@americanoversight.org>  
**CC:** Bethea, Stan <SBethea@coj.net>; Feiser, Craig <CFeiser@coj.net>  
**Subject:** FW: FW: Public Records Request  
**Attachment(s):** "FL-DUVAL-19-0522.pdf"

Good morning Beth,

Thank you for contacting the City of Jacksonville. Your public records request has been received and is being processed. Charges for copying as well as research may apply depending on the work required to retrieve the records. You will be notified if any charges are applicable.

Thank you,

**Angie Wilson**  
*Public Records Requests Coordinator*  
City of Jacksonville | Customer Service Center  
214 N. Hogan Street Suite 1180  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
(904) 630-7674  
630CITY.coj.net



ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

**Please note that under Florida's very broad public records law, communications to and from City of Jacksonville officials are subject to public disclosure.**

---

**From:** Bethea, Stan <SBethea@coj.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 8:46 AM  
**To:** Public Record Request <PRR@coj.net>  
**Subject:** FW: FW: Public Records Request

Please fulfil this request.

Thanks,



**Stan Bethea**

Director of Information Services  
Duval County Supervisor of Elections  
1 Imeson Park Blvd, Bldg. 100  
Jacksonville, FL 32218  
Office: 904-630-8022  
[www.DuvalElections.com](http://www.DuvalElections.com)

**UPCOMING ELECTION DATE**

City of Jacksonville General Election  
May 14, 2019

**From:** Beth France [<mailto:beth.france@americanoversight.org>]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2019 3:25 PM  
**To:** Hogan, Mike  
**Subject:** Public Records Request

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email originated from a non-COJ email address. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000298

trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Public Records Officer:

Please find attached a request for records under Florida's public records law.

Sincerely,

Beth France

Counsel

American Oversight

[foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org) | 202.897.2465

[www.americanoversight.org](http://www.americanoversight.org) | @weareoversight

FL-DUVAL-19-0522



April 22, 2019

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Mike Hogan  
Duval County Supervisor of Elections  
105 East Monroe Street  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
[mhogan@coj.net](mailto:mhogan@coj.net)

**Re: Public Records Request**

Dear Public Records Officer:

Pursuant to the Florida's public records law, as codified at Fla. Stat. Chapter 119, American Oversight makes the following request for public records.

**Requested Records**

American Oversight requests that Duval County promptly produce the following:

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- Kris Kobach (including communications from [kkobach@gmail.com](mailto:kkobach@gmail.com), [kris@kriskobach.com](mailto:kris@kriskobach.com), or any email addresses ending in ks.gov)
- J. (John) Christian Adams
- Hans von Spakovsky
- John R. Lott Jr.
- Ken Block
- Donal Palmer
- Robert Popper
- Catherine Engelbrecht
- Christy McCormick (including communications with [cacm@aol.com](mailto:cacm@aol.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of the Election Law Center ([electionlawcenter.com](http://electionlawcenter.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of the Government Accountability Institute ([g-a-i.org](http://g-a-i.org))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Simpatico Software Systems ([simpaticosoftware.com](http://simpaticosoftware.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Judicial Watch ([judicialwatch.org](http://judicialwatch.org))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Heritage Foundation ([heritage.org](http://heritage.org))





- Anyone communicating on behalf of Heritage Action for America (heritageaction.com)
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Public Interest Legal Foundation (publicinterestlegal.org)
- Anyone communicating on behalf of American Civil Rights Union (theacru.org)
- Anyone communicating on behalf of True The Vote (truethevote.org)

American Oversight believes that your office is the most likely location for the records it seeks. However, if other county boards, commissions, offices, departments, or divisions are likely to possess records responsive to this request, American Oversight asks that you forward this request to those boards, commissions, offices, departments, or divisions or promptly notify American Oversight so that it may submit this request directly to those boards, commissions, offices, departments, or divisions.

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### **Conclusion**

We share a common mission to promote transparency in government. American Oversight looks forward to working with your office on this request. If you do not understand any part of this request, have any questions, or foresee any problems in fully releasing the requested records, please contact Beth France at [foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org) or 202.897.2465..

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Austin R. Evers", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Austin R. Evers  
Executive Director  
American Oversight

**From:** Hogan, Mike  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 04, 2019 11:35 AM EDT  
**To:** Bethea, Stan <SBethea@coj.net>  
**Subject:** FW: Public Records Request  
**Attachment(s):** "FL-DUVAL-19-0522.pdf"

[See me](#)

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**From:** Beth France [mailto:beth.france@americanoversight.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2019 3:25 PM  
**To:** Hogan, Mike  
**Subject:** Public Records Request

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Dear Public Records Officer:

Please find attached a request for records under Florida's public records law.

Sincerely,

Beth France  
Counsel  
American Oversight  
[foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org) | 202.897.2465  
[www.americanoversight.org](http://www.americanoversight.org) | @weareoversight

FL-DUVAL-19-0522



April 22, 2019

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Mike Hogan  
Duval County Supervisor of Elections  
105 East Monroe Street  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
[mhogan@coj.net](mailto:mhogan@coj.net)

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- J. (John) Christian Adams
- Hans von Spakovsky
- John R. Lott Jr.
- Ken Block
- Donal Palmer
- Robert Popper
- Catherine Engelbrecht
- Christy McCormick (including communications with [cacm@aol.com](mailto:cacm@aol.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of the Election Law Center ([electionlawcenter.com](http://electionlawcenter.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of the Government Accountability Institute ([g-a-i.org](http://g-a-i.org))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Simpatico Software Systems ([simpaticosoftware.com](http://simpaticosoftware.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Judicial Watch ([judicialwatch.org](http://judicialwatch.org))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Heritage Foundation ([heritage.org](http://heritage.org))



- Anyone communicating on behalf of Heritage Action for America (heritageaction.com)
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Public Interest Legal Foundation (publicinterestlegal.org)
- Anyone communicating on behalf of American Civil Rights Union (theacru.org)
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Austin R. Evers  
Executive Director  
American Oversight

**From:** Hogan, Mike <MHogan@coj.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 04, 2019 11:35 AM EDT  
**To:** Bethea, Stan <SBethea@coj.net>  
**Subject:** FW: Public Records Request  
**Attachment(s):** "FL-DUVAL-19-0522.pdf"

[See me](#)

---

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**To:** Hogan, Mike  
**Subject:** Public Records Request

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Counsel  
American Oversight  
[foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org) | 202.897.2465  
[www.americanoversight.org](http://www.americanoversight.org) | @weareoversight

FL-DUVAL-19-0522



April 22, 2019

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Mike Hogan  
Duval County Supervisor of Elections  
105 East Monroe Street  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
[mhogan@coj.net](mailto:mhogan@coj.net)

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- Anyone communicating on behalf of Judicial Watch ([judicialwatch.org](http://judicialwatch.org))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Heritage Foundation ([heritage.org](http://heritage.org))





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- Anyone communicating on behalf of Public Interest Legal Foundation (publicinterestlegal.org)
- Anyone communicating on behalf of American Civil Rights Union (theacru.org)
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Austin R. Evers  
Executive Director  
American Oversight

**From:** Hogan, Mike <MHogan@coj.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 04, 2018 3:20 PM EDT  
**To:** Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net>  
**Subject:** FW: Supervisor feedback

Please reply



## Mike Hogan

Duval County Supervisor of Elections  
105 E. Monroe St. Jacksonville, FL 32202  
(904) 630-7757 [www.DuvalElections.com](http://www.DuvalElections.com)

Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves and the only way they could do this is by not voting. *Franklin D. Roosevelt*

---

**From:** American Civil Rights Union [mailto:[info@theacru.org](mailto:info@theacru.org)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 26, 2018 10:28 AM  
**To:** Hogan, Mike  
**Subject:** Supervisor feedback

Dear Supervisor Hogan:

The American Civil Rights Union is interested in determining the use of certain voter list maintenance procedures. I hope that you will assist us by answering the following questions. (Please just reply to [info@theacru.org](mailto:info@theacru.org) and add your answers.)

Does your office receive juror change of address updates from your Clerk of Circuit Court? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If yes, how often? \_\_\_\_\_

Does your office receive information on the ineligibility of jurors (i.e. felon, non-citizen) from your Clerk of Circuit Court? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If yes, how often? \_\_\_\_\_

In what format do you receive this information (i.e. spreadsheet, copy of questionnaires? ) \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to provide additional detail about the sharing of data between the Clerks of Circuit Court, Division of Elections or DMV and your office, please tell us how in your reply.

Thank you very much for providing this information. Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jan Tyler  
Florida Director  
[info@theacru.org](mailto:info@theacru.org)  
(303) 929-2066

---

[www.theACRU.org](http://www.theACRU.org)

American Civil Rights Union | 3213 Duke St., #625, Alexandria, VA 22314

[Unsubscribe mhogan@coj.net](mailto:unsubscribe.mhogan@coj.net)

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Sent by [info@theacru.org](mailto:info@theacru.org) in collaboration  
with

[Try it free today](#)

**From:** Hogan, Mike  
**Sent:** Friday, May 04, 2018 3:20 PM EDT  
**To:** Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net>  
**Subject:** FW: Supervisor feedback

Please reply



## ***Mike Hogan***

Duval County Supervisor of Elections  
105 E. Monroe St. Jacksonville, FL 32202  
(904) 630-7757 [www.DuvalElections.com](http://www.DuvalElections.com)

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[info@theacru.org](mailto:info@theacru.org)  
(303) 929-2066

---

**[www.theACRU.org](http://www.theACRU.org)**

American Civil Rights Union | 3213 Duke St., #625, Alexandria, VA 22314

[Unsubscribe mhogan@coj.net](mailto:unsubscribe.mhogan@coj.net)

[Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by [info@theacru.org](mailto:info@theacru.org) in collaboration  
with

[Try it free today](#)

**From:** Vicki Cannon <vcannon@votenassau.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 02, 2018 4:20 PM EDT  
**To:** Hogan, Mike <MHogan@coj.net>  
**Subject:** FW: Supervisor feedback

*Vicki P. Cannon*

Supervisor of Elections of Nassau County  
96135 Nassau Place, Suite 3, Yulee, Florida 32097  
904.491.7500, Toll Free 1.866.260.4301, Fax 904.432.1400  
Email: [vcannon@votenassau.com](mailto:vcannon@votenassau.com)  
Website: [www.VoteNassau.com](http://www.VoteNassau.com)

Under Florida law, email addresses are public records. If you do not want your email address released in response to a public records request, please do not send electronic mail (email) to this entity. Instead, please contact this office by phone or in writing.

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**Subject:** Supervisor feedback



Dear Supervisor Cannon:

The American Civil Rights Union is interested in determining the use of certain voter list maintenance procedures. I hope that you will assist us by answering the following questions. (Please just reply to [info@theacru.org](mailto:info@theacru.org) and add your answers.)

Does your office receive juror change of address updates from your Clerk of Circuit Court? ☐ YES ☐ NO  
If yes, how often? \_\_\_\_\_

Does your office receive information on the ineligibility of jurors (i.e. felon, non-citizen) from your Clerk of Circuit Court? ☐ YES ☐ NO  
If yes, how often? \_\_\_\_\_

In what format do you receive this information (i.e. spreadsheet, copy of questionnaires? ) \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to provide additional detail about the sharing of data between the Clerks of Circuit Court, Division of Elections or DMV and your office, please tell us how in your reply.

Thank you very much for providing this information. Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jan Tyler

Florida Director  
[info@theacru.org](mailto:info@theacru.org)  
(303) 929-2066



[www.theACRU.org](http://www.theACRU.org)

American Civil Rights Union | 3213 Duke St., #625, Alexandria, VA 22314

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with

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**From:** Christie Fogarty <info@heritage.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 11:15 AM EST  
**To:** Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net>  
**Subject:** FWD: Robert's membership

Robert,

I wanted to forward you a note that my team member just passed along. We've had over 700 of your fellow patriots become Heritage members just in the last two weeks. I'd love to add your name to the list **before Friday's deadline**, so I can send you your membership card.

Here's a link to join now:

[https://secured.heritage.org/\\_2018/join-heritage](https://secured.heritage.org/_2018/join-heritage)

Thank you,

Christie Fogarty  
☐ Membership Director

P.S. If you are already a member for 2018 and have received this email in error, please let us know by emailing us at [membership@heritage.org](mailto:membership@heritage.org) and we will add your email to your membership record.

FORWARDED MESSAGE:

---

To: Christie Fogarty  
From: Samantha Donohue  
Subject: Robert's membership

Hey Christie,

Have you heard from [redacted] about confirming their membership yet? I'd love to send them their membership card as soon as I can.

Thanks,

Samantha Donohue ☐  
Assistant Director, Online Membership

The Heritage Foundation

You are subscribed to Heritage Foundation e-mails as phillips@coj.net. If you'd rather not hear from me again, you can respond back to this email or [click here to update your preferences](#).

-

**From:** Bethea, Stan <SBethea@coj.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 04, 2019 11:38 AM EDT  
**To:** ITDPRR <ITDPRR@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Fwd: FW: Public Records Request  
**Attachment(s):** "FL-DUVAL-19-0522.pdf"

Thanks,  
Stan

Message and typos sent from smartphone.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Hogan, Mike" <MHogan@coj.net>  
Date: May 4, 2019 11:35 AM  
Subject: FW: Public Records Request  
To: "Bethea, Stan" <SBethea@coj.net>  
Cc:

[See me](#)

---

**From:** Beth France [mailto:beth.france@americanoversight.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2019 3:25 PM  
**To:** Hogan, Mike  
**Subject:** Public Records Request

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email originated from a non-COJ email address. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Public Records Officer:

Please find attached a request for records under Florida's public records law.

Sincerely,

Beth France  
Counsel  
American Oversight  
[foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org) | 202.897.2465  
[www.americanoversight.org](http://www.americanoversight.org) | @weareoversight

FL-DUVAL-19-0522



April 22, 2019

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Mike Hogan  
Duval County Supervisor of Elections  
105 East Monroe Street  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
[mhogan@coj.net](mailto:mhogan@coj.net)

**Re: Public Records Request**

Dear Public Records Officer:

Pursuant to the Florida's public records law, as codified at Fla. Stat. Chapter 119, American Oversight makes the following request for public records.

**Requested Records**

American Oversight requests that Duval County promptly produce the following:

All communications (including emails, email attachments, text messages, calendar invitations/entries, letters, memoranda, or other communications) between any county elections official and any of the individuals or entities listed below:

- Kris Kobach (including communications from [kkobach@gmail.com](mailto:kkobach@gmail.com), [kris@kriskobach.com](mailto:kris@kriskobach.com), or any email addresses ending in ks.gov)
- J. (John) Christian Adams
- Hans von Spakovsky
- John R. Lott Jr.
- Ken Block
- Donal Palmer
- Robert Popper
- Catherine Engelbrecht
- Christy McCormick (including communications with [cacm@aol.com](mailto:cacm@aol.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of the Election Law Center ([electionlawcenter.com](http://electionlawcenter.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of the Government Accountability Institute ([g-a-i.org](http://g-a-i.org))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Simpatico Software Systems ([simpaticosoftware.com](http://simpaticosoftware.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Judicial Watch ([judicialwatch.org](http://judicialwatch.org))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Heritage Foundation ([heritage.org](http://heritage.org))



- Anyone communicating on behalf of Heritage Action for America (heritageaction.com)
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Public Interest Legal Foundation (publicinterestlegal.org)
- Anyone communicating on behalf of American Civil Rights Union (theacru.org)
- Anyone communicating on behalf of True The Vote (truethetvote.org)

American Oversight believes that your office is the most likely location for the records it seeks. However, if other county boards, commissions, offices, departments, or divisions are likely to possess records responsive to this request, American Oversight asks that you forward this request to those boards, commissions, offices, departments, or divisions or promptly notify American Oversight so that it may submit this request directly to those boards, commissions, offices, departments, or divisions.

Please provide all responsive records from November 9, 2016, to the date the search is conducted.

American Oversight seeks all responsive records regardless of format, medium, or physical characteristics. In conducting your search, please understand the term “record” in its broadest sense, to include any written, typed, recorded, graphic, printed, or audio material of any kind. We seek records of any kind, including electronic records, audiotapes, videotapes, and photographs, as well as letters, emails, facsimiles, telephone messages, voice mail messages and transcripts, notes, or minutes of any meetings, telephone conversations or discussions. Our request includes any attachments to these records. **No category of material should be omitted from search, collection, and production.**

In addition, American Oversight insists that your office use the most up-to-date technologies to search for responsive information and take steps to ensure that the most complete repositories of information are searched. American Oversight is available to work with you to craft appropriate search terms. **However, custodian searches are still required; governmental authorities may not have direct access to files stored in .PST files, outside of network drives, in paper format, or in personal email accounts.**

Please search all records regarding official business, **including files or emails in the personal custody of your officials, such as personal email accounts.**

In the event some portions of the requested records are properly exempt from disclosure, please disclose any reasonably segregable non-exempt portions of the requested records. If it is your position that a document contains non-exempt segments, but that those non-exempt segments are so dispersed throughout the document as to make segregation impossible, please state what portion of the document is non-exempt, and how the material is dispersed throughout the document. If a request is denied in whole, please state specifically that it is not reasonable to segregate portions of the record for release.

Please take appropriate steps to ensure that records responsive to this request are not deleted by your office before the completion of processing for this request. If records potentially responsive to

this request are likely to be located on systems where they are subject to potential deletion, including on a scheduled basis, please take steps to prevent that deletion, including, as appropriate, by instituting a litigation hold on those records.

To ensure that this request is properly construed, that searches are conducted in an adequate but efficient manner, and that extraneous costs are not incurred, American Oversight welcomes an opportunity to discuss its request with you before you undertake your search or incur search or duplication costs. By working together at the outset, American Oversight and the Department of State can decrease the likelihood of costly and time-consuming litigation in the future.

Where possible, please provide responsive material in electronic format by email or in PDF or TIF format on a USB drive. Please send any responsive material being sent by mail to American Oversight, 1030 15th Street NW, Suite B255, Washington, DC 20005. If it will accelerate release of responsive records to American Oversight, please also provide responsive material on a rolling basis.

### **Conclusion**

We share a common mission to promote transparency in government. American Oversight looks forward to working with your office on this request. If you do not understand any part of this request, have any questions, or foresee any problems in fully releasing the requested records, please contact Beth France at [foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org) or 202.897.2465..

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Austin R. Evers", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Austin R. Evers  
Executive Director  
American Oversight

**From:** The Daily Signal <morningbell@heritage.org>

**Sent:** Saturday, December 24, 2016 12:24 PM EST

**To:** Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net>

**Subject:** GEORGE SOROS FINALLY FOUND A WAY TO SWAY ELECTIONS | What the Founders Thought About Term Limits | 4 Ways Congress Sought to Change the Electoral College | Your News Is About to Be Censored | Low-Income Americans React to Obama's New Lending Regulations

Dec. 24, 2016

## George Soros Finally Found a Way to Sway Elections. Here's How He Did It

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## Here's What the Founders Thought About Term Limits

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## 4 Ways Congress Sought to Change or Scrap the Electoral College

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## Facebook's Reliance on Liberal Fact-Checkers Means Your News Is About to Be Censored

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You are subscribed to Heritage Foundation e-mails as phillips@coj.net. If you want to change your e-mail preferences, [please click here to update your subscription.](#)

**From:** Jim DeMint <info@heritage.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 17, 2016 7:37 PM EST  
**To:** Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Goodbye Obamacare

Robert,

In just over a month, President-elect Trump will be sworn into office and become the 45th President of the United States. He has vowed that within the first 100 days of his administration he will work with Congress to repeal and replace Obamacare.

Reversing Obamacare is not easy. The law itself must be repealed in its entirety. Thousands upon thousands of pages of regulations must be canceled and rewritten. New policies need to be crafted, policies that advance free enterprise and not big government. It's going to take top experts, scholars, and researchers to formulate this alternative.

That's where the Heritage Foundation comes in.

**Heritage has a complete, detailed plan to repeal Obamacare immediately.** Already, some of our foremost scholars and experts (including our founder Ed Feulner) are working as part of the Trump transition team to pave the way for a conservative administration. We stand ready to educate and advise key presidential and congressional players on how to successfully repeal and replace Obamacare.

Leftist and Establishment types are trying to fight repeal and water it down. It's imperative that we act quickly and refuse to compromise our principles. [Find out how you can advance conservative victories in 2017 >>](#)

Robert, the Heritage Foundation is crafting and developing conservative policy to protect you and your family and build a better, safer, more prosperous America.

[Will you support this important work](#)—and specifically the repeal of Obamacare? Your year-end gift to Heritage is not only tax deductible, it is crucial to the implementation of sound conservative policy.

Thank you,

Jim DeMint  
President

The Heritage Foundation

You are subscribed to Heritage Foundation e-mails as phillips@coj.net. If you'd rather not hear from me again, you can respond back to this email or [click here to update your preferences](#).

-



**From:** Twitter <info@twitter.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 17, 2017 3:37 PM EST  
**To:** Hinson, Linda <LHinson@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Heritage Foundation Tweeted: A United People Doesn't Have Hyphenated Citizens

# Your Highlights

**Heritage Foundation**

@Heritage

A United People Doesn't Have Hyphenated Citizens

**A United People Doesn't Have Hyphenated Citizens | The Heritage Foundation**

Who are we? This existential question is being asked with increasing intensity throughout the... [more](#)

heritage.org

5

25

50

**James Croft**

@crizoft

Got in a sketch today at the lake. I remember helping build this dock back in the day. [instagram.com/p/BcyBu8jgWnc/](#)

1

**Timothy Gibbons**

@reportertim

CSX CEO Hunter Harrison has died, two days after taking medical leave:

**CSX CEO Hunter Harrison has died - Jacksonville Business Journal**

Hunter Harrison, rail industry disruptor and leader of CSX Corp., has died.

bizjournals.com

**Allison Skufc..**

@ASkufca

Another year down with this group of people! We have one of the best staff of coaches in... [instagram.com/p/Bc0P250H1-y/](#)

1

1

**Jon Wertheim**

@jon\_wertheim

Our lengthy [@SInow](#) investigation into alleged misconduct of Jerry Richardson:

**Exclusive: New details on allegations against Panthers owner Jerry Richardson**

At least four former Panthers employees have received monetary settlements over inappropriate... [more](#)

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FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000325

 **Joe V**  
@Joe\_V\_

6-6 Twitter. [twitter.com/KarenKeyLargo/...](https://twitter.com/KarenKeyLargo/...)

2

3

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We sent this email to @LhinsonLinda

Twitter, Inc. 1355 Market Street, Suite 900 San Francisco, CA 94103

**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 1:50 PM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** H.R. 1 is the Democrat's ultimate fantasy; massive illegal voter registrations uncovered in Texas; Colorado pulls out of the interstate exchange and opts for national popular vote

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email originated from a non-COJ email address. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

[H.R. 1 is the Democrat's ultimate fantasy](#) and vote fraud is real as the evidence mounts. Massive illegal [voter registrations uncovered in Texas](#), with a county election staffer actually [arrested for vote fraud](#); California officials warned that DMV [voter registration was flawed](#); Connecticut [Democrat party boss charged with ballot fraud](#); while [Pennsylvania fesses up to 11,000 noncitizens registered](#) to vote.

[Colorado pulls out of the interstate exchange](#) and [opts for national popular vote](#); while Governor DeSantis [opposes post-Election Day voting](#) and promises the new [Florida Supreme Court will be less leftwing](#). Things are all tied up after [Kentucky recount](#); while the [motives of its former Secretary of State staff](#) are questioned. [Mississippi is strengthening voter ID](#); and North Carolina finally has a [State Board of Elections](#). Governor Northam loses his fight to [strike down voter ID in Virginia](#); and [Michigan redistricting proposal](#) has been dealt a blow by federal judges.

## LEAD

### ACRU Joins Conservatives Opposing H.R. 1, the Ultimate Fantasy of the Left

Conservatives are united in opposing H.R. 1, the attempt by House Democrats to fundamentally undermine the American electoral system. While they cloak the bill in terms of “restoring democracy” and “preventing corruption,” the legislation has one goal: to protect incumbents, at the expense of the First Amendment, federalism, and individual voter integrity. H.R. 1 undermines the First Amendment. H.R. 1 undoes key Supreme Court cases that protect elections as fundamental to free speech. It would allow the Federal Election Commission to track and catalogue more of what Americans are saying, register even very small political donations, and make public those who donate to different charitable and nonprofit organizations. The legislation will subject private citizens to intimidation and harassment for their private and political beliefs, far broader than what was done in the IRS targeting scandal.

## FEDERAL

### Conservative Review: Non-Citizens Voting in Our Elections is a Huge Problem

The fact that illegal immigrants are likely voting in our elections is a national emergency in its own right that should demand immediate attention from our political leadership. Over the weekend, the Texas Department of Public Safety released the details of a voter registration analysis showing that 95,000 registered voters are suspected of having registered to vote as non-citizens. They further found that 58,000 of those registered voters cast ballots at least once since 1996. The fact that someone who is applying for the ultimate right of a citizen can merely rely on his driver's license, which was issued upon a showing of immigrant documentation, is a threat to our franchise.

### Heritage Foundation: What a Registration Surprise in Texas Tells Us About Voter Fraud

The man in charge of elections in Texas made a surprise announcement last week: As many as 95,000 noncitizens had registered to vote, and 58,000 of them may have voted in at least one election between 1996 and 2018. The finding announced by Texas Secretary of State David Whitley is serious. Here's what is actually happening. For nearly a year, Whitley's office has worked to compare the state's voter rolls to data from the Department of Public Safety, with the goal of flagging people who are registered to vote but who also provided DPS with documentation indicating they are not U.S. citizens. Whitley's office cautioned that the matches should be further investigated, and do not automatically trigger cancellation of voter registration.

## STATES

**Arizona: AZGOP Audit Says Fontes Actions Questionable, Not Illegal**

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000327

Preliminary results of an audit commissioned by the Arizona Republican Party concluded that Maricopa County's Democratic recorder didn't violate any laws during the 2018 general election and that two disputed policies he implemented didn't affect the outcomes of any races. Attorney Stephen Richer, who is conducting the audit, Richer wrote that he is still awaiting records from the Maricopa County Recorder's Office and emphasized that the findings are not final. Richer wrote that then-AZGOP Chairman Jonathan Lines commissioned the audit in November 2018 in response to Republican concerns about the party's November losses, which came after Democrats took the lead in several statewide races in the days after Election Day. The audit focused on four issues: Fontes's expansion of pre-election emergency voting, his decision to verify or "cure" early ballots that had problematic signatures after the polls closed on Election Day, allegations of partisanship against Fontes, and several unsubstantiated election fraud allegations. Richer said he "appreciates" that Fontes acknowledged he didn't jump hastily to any conclusions in the audit, but said the findings raised red flags.

### **California: Top Elections Officials Say They Asked Secretary of State Alex Padilla to Hold Off on DMV Roll-Out**

The plan called for the Department of Motor Vehicles to automatically register people who came into its offices, one of several efforts by Democrats controlling California politics to make it easier for more people to vote. With the June 2018 primary approaching, election officials said they warned that the department that manages car registration and boat licenses was not yet prepared to register voters. State Sen. John Moorlach, R-Costa Mesa, thinks the DMV's implementation was flawed, but said Padilla should have taken more personal responsibility. "It's his fault. He should have respected the advice of the experts and implementers." Padilla considered a temporary halt to Motor Voter ahead of the November general election. He briefly asked the DMV and CDT to stop sending voter information to his office, prompting concerns from county clerks. They worried they would wind up with a large backlog of data right before the election. But Padilla ultimately decided to keep the program running with an added layer of review.

### **Colorado: Colorado Senate Passes Bill Favoring Popular Vote Over Electoral College**

The Colorado Senate this week passed a bill that would award the state's electoral votes to the presidential candidate who wins the nationwide popular vote. The Senate passed the measure along party lines in a 19-16 vote Tuesday, sending the bill to the state House for consideration. The bill, known as the national popular vote interstate compact, was sponsored by state Sen. Mike Foote (D), would require Colorado members of the Electoral College to cast their vote for the winner of the national popular vote.

### **Colorado: Colorado Withdraws from Kansas Interstate Voter Registration Crosscheck**

This week, Colorado Secretary of State Jena Griswold formally withdrew the state of Colorado from 'Kansas Crosscheck.' Colorado joined Crosscheck in 2008, under Secretary of State Mike Coffman. Since its inception, the program has been riddled with problems including insufficient data and an inability to guarantee the privacy of Coloradans. In addition, the program has been used as a partisan charade, resulting in the potential disenfranchisement of eligible citizens from the voter rolls. Crosscheck was promoted as a data sharing tool for states to maintain their voter registration rolls. Colorado is a founding member of the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC). Unlike Crosscheck, ERIC sends states quality list maintenance data on a near continuous basis. Also, unlike Crosscheck, ERIC exceeds industry standards for data security. Twenty-six states and the District of Columbia are members of ERIC. Secretary Griswold urges Crosscheck to close and for other states to join ERIC.

### **Connecticut: Former Stamford Dem Party Boss Charged with Falsifying Absentee Ballots**

John Mallozzi, the city's former Democratic Party chief, was arrested Wednesday on charges of absentee ballot fraud in the 2015 municipal election. He allegedly forged ballots for relatives, Spanish-speaking residents and Albanian-Americans new to the election system, according to the State's Attorney's Office. Mallozzi was charged with 14 counts each of filing false statements and second-degree forgery. He turned himself in to Stamford police on the charges, both Class D felonies punishable by up to five years in prison and/or a fine of up to \$5,000 per count. Mallozzi, a longtime figure in city politics, chaired the Stamford Democratic City Committee from 2012 to 2016. Investigators with the State's Attorney's Office in Stamford allege that Mallozzi's handwriting matched that of signatures on 14 absentee ballots assigned to voters who said they never requested them.

### **Florida: Suspended Palm Beach Elections Supervisor Resigns**

A suspended Florida county elections supervisor who failed to meet deadlines during recounts after November's election has resigned. Susan Bucher, a Democrat, sent a letter to the Republican Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis on Friday officially stepping down as Palm Beach County elections supervisor. DeSantis suspended Bucher earlier this month, and the state Senate would have had the final say in whether she should have been permanently removed. DeSantis previously said Bucher violated the law by not completing recounts by a state-mandated deadline. He appointed lawyer Wendy Link to fill the position.

### **Florida: Governor DeSantis Opposes Letting Late Mail Ballots Count**

One of the lawsuits still floating around after the 2018 election seeks to have mail ballots counted up to 10 days after an election if they were mailed before polls closed, but speaking to reporters Wednesday, Governor Ron DeSantis says an election needs to be final on election day. The Governor says he opposes allowing late ballots to count. "When you know that, and we know the finite number of votes it's very difficult to say that someone is manipulating the results because it's there," said DeSantis. "It's only when we don't know how many votes are out there, that people can say Oh, someone just brought a truckload of votes in, so I want to avoid that." Under current law, ballots mailed from overseas by active military can be counted if they are received within 10 days of the election.

### **Kentucky: Kentucky House Race Ends in Tie After Recount: 'Normally, You Don't Count Invalid Ballots'**

A recount in a Kentucky state House race originally won by a Democrat by a single vote has ended in a tie after the local board of elections decided to open and count five absentee ballots that had previously been rejected. It's unclear what comes next. Democrat Jim Glenn defeated former Republican state Rep. DJ Johnson on Election Day by a one-vote margin. Kentucky does not have automatic recounts, and the Kentucky State Board of Elections certified Glenn as the winner. He was sworn in on Jan. 5 and has an office and been assigned to committees. But the Republican-controlled state legislature ordered a recount at Johnson's request, relying on a state law that allows candidates in legislative races to contest election results. Saturday, the Daviess County Clerk's Office recounted more than 12,000 ballots by hand. Glenn emerged from that process ahead by three votes. But after a personal appeal from Johnson, the Daviess County Board of Elections - which consists of two Republicans and two Democrats - voted to give Johnson one of those votes back, putting him down by two. The board then reviewed 17 absentee ballots that they had unanimously rejected on Election Day. This time, the board decided five of those ballots were legal, and opened them. Johnson received three of them, Glenn received one and one ballot was blank. That made the final results a tie, with each candidate receiving 6,323 votes.

### **Kentucky: 'It's Inappropriate.' Staff of Grimes Searched Voting Records of Workers and Rivals**

In an appearance on MSNBC in July 2017, Kentucky Secretary of State Alison Lundergan Grimes expressed her vehement opposition to giving voter data to President Donald Trump's voter fraud commission, which had requested it from election officials in all 50 states. The privacy risks were simply too high, she said. "There is not enough bourbon here in Kentucky to make this request seem sensible," Grimes said. "Not on my watch are we going to be releasing sensitive information that relates to the privacy of individuals." But beginning months before she made that statement, Grimes' own staff had been looking up hundreds of voters in the very same registration system. One of her former staffers first revealed the practice last summer but provided little detail.

### **Mississippi: Proposal Would Make Mississippi Voter ID Law Stricter**

A proposal would set a shorter deadline for Mississippi voters to show photo identification if they forget it on Election Day. Since 2014, the state has required people to show government-issued identification, such as a driver's license, before voting. Anyone who forgets an ID may cast an affidavit ballot at the precinct but must go to a courthouse within five days to show the identification. If they don't show up, their ballot is rejected. Senate Bill 2242 would shorten the five days to three days. Senate Elections Committee Chairman Kevin Blackwell, a Republican from Southaven, said some election commissioners around the state have told him the five-day window slows the process of certifying election results. Danny Klein, chairman of the DeSoto County Elections Commission, said only a few people forget to take their photo identification to the polls each election. Some of those people quickly go to the courthouse to show the ID so their vote will count, but most simply never show back up, he said.

### **North Carolina: New NC Elections Board Named Allowing 9th District Investigation to Proceed**

After more than a month without a State Board of Elections, Gov. Roy Cooper on Thursday named five people to the reconstituted board. Another meeting will be held next week, at which time members will set a date for a hearing into the ongoing investigation of alleged absentee ballot fraud in the 9th Congressional District race.

### **North Carolina: House Speaker Continues to Back Voter ID Law**

As debate about North Carolina's new voter identification law continues, Cleveland County election officials are awaiting guidance on issuing photo IDs. In November, North Carolina voters approved a constitutional amendment requiring voters to show a photo ID before casting ballots. The North Carolina General Assembly passed the new voter ID law in December. A lawsuit challenging voter ID in North Carolina was filed hours after legislation implementing the constitutional amendment became law. Now, Republican legislators hope to have the lawsuit dismissed. House Speaker Tim Moore, the primary sponsor of the original legislation proposing a voter ID constitutional amendment, said the court should dismiss the latest lawsuit for failure to state a claim. "The people of North Carolina chose to add voter ID to their state constitution, and we will not allow Governor Cooper or these plaintiffs to suppress their voice in the democratic process," Moore said.

### **Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania Admits to 11,000 Noncitizens Registered to Vote**

A top Pennsylvania lawmaker called on the state Wednesday to immediately expunge the names of 11,198 noncitizens whom the state confirmed are registered to vote, despite not being eligible. State Rep. Daryl Metcalfe, a Republican and former chairman of a House government oversight panel, said the administration of Gov. Tom Wolf, a Democrat, belatedly acknowledged the large number of noncitizens in communications over the past two months. "I believe that we need to take action and have those people removed immediately from the rolls," Mr. Metcalfe told The Washington Times. "They were never eligible to vote." Just days earlier, officials in Texas announced they had found nearly 100,000 noncitizens on the state's voter rolls. The numbers, while not yet evidence of massive voter fraud that President Trump said marred the popular vote in the 2016 election, are nonetheless higher than the almost-zero levels of voting mischief that the president's critics have suggested.

### **Texas: Woman Arrested for Voting Using Deceased Person's Identity**

A woman arrested on voter fraud allegations will be prosecuted at the state level. Investigators say Bernice Annette Garza voted in the March 2016 democratic primary election, using a deceased person's identity. They say she used a mail-in ballot in Starr County. Garza has been charged with voter impersonation, illegal voting, and providing false information. The attorney general says Hidalgo County prosecutors will help with the case.

### **Virginia: Governor Northam's Push to Strike Down Voter ID Laws Fails**

In early January, before the start of the 46-day General Assembly session in Richmond, Virginia Governor Ralph Northam (D) announced that he would work with the Democratic Party to repeal the Commonwealth's long-standing law requiring voters to present photo identification at the ballot box. Although Northam and Democrats in the Virginia legislature had high hopes to strike down the law this session, the Republican majority in both the House of Delegates and State Senate blocked the progressive measure. The House Privileges and Elections Committee did not deliberate the bill before Tuesday's crossover, leaving it behind without a chance to be considered again this year. The bill in the upper chamber was "passed indefinitely" by Senate Privileges and Elections Committee, meaning the bill can be considered at the next meeting; however, routinely that does not occur.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **Florida: Governor DeSantis Promises New SCOFLA Won't Side So Much with Democrats**

Gov. Ron DeSantis told legal conservatives Friday that the Florida Supreme Court too often favors Democrats in rulings including redistricting. But he promised that will now change. Speaking at the annual convention for the Federalist Society, held this year at the Convention Center at Yacht & Beach Club in Lake Buena Vista, the Republican slammed Florida's high court as an activist one. "You have a court that's constantly gone beyond the bounds of what is judicial into the realm of what is really legislative," he said, according to Florida Trend's Jason Garcia. "By the way— is this just a big coincidence?" he said. "Anything that had a political color to it just always happened to be decided in the way of the Democratic Party." He

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000330

specifically cited redistricting as a concern.

### Michigan: Michigan Redistricting Deal Killed by Federal Judges

A three-judge panel on Friday rejected a proposed deal to redraw at least 11 Michigan House districts for the 2020 election, saying the state's new Democratic secretary of state had no authority to make a pact with fellow Democrats who accused Republicans of crafting unconstitutional maps. The decision means the federal judges will hold a trial, starting Tuesday.

#### The American Civil Rights Union

3213 Duke St., #625

Alexandria, VA 22314

<http://www.theacru.org>

<http://www.votingintegrityinstitute.org>

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**From:** JW Action <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 02, 2019 12:52 PM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** HUGE: President Trump Retweeted Judicial Watch and Tom Fitton Seven Times!

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email originated from a non-COJ email address. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Web Version

Judicial Watch' />

**HUGE: President Trump  
Retweeted Judicial Watch and  
Tom Fitton Seven Times!**

Dear Judicial Watch Supporter,

President Donald Trump retweeted  
Judicial Watch and Judicial Watch  
President Tom Fitton seven times on  
May 1st! The seven tweets were about  
Judicial Watch's weekly update, new  
Clinton emails, Tom Fitton's  
appearance on Hannity, FOIA referrals  
on "RussiaGate," Judicial Watch's  
lawsuit for communications and  
payments between Steele, FBI, and the  
DOJ.

The retweets are below here:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

[Will you help continue our work with  
your most generous gift today?](#)

-  
Thank you for your support of Judicial  
Watch. You are making an impact!

Sincerely,

Carter Clews  
Director of Communications



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[judicialwatch.org](http://judicialwatch.org)

**From:** Judicial Watch <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 26, 2019 9:36 AM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** HUGE: President Trump Retweets Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton

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[Judicial Watch' />](#)

**HUGE: President Trump  
Retweets  
Judicial Watch President  
Tom Fitton**

President Donald Trump retweeted Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton twice yesterday. One tweet focused on a CPAC panel Tom Fitton participated in with Rep. Devin Nunes and the other retweet was about the assault on Tucker Carlson's home by radical, violent leftists.

The retweets are below here:

- 
- 



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[judicialwatch.org](http://judicialwatch.org)

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**From:** Judicial Watch <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 9:48 AM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** HUGE: President Trump Retweets Judicial Watch

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Web Version

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## HUGE: President Trump Retweets Judicial Watch

Dear Judicial Watch Supporter,

President Donald Trump retweeted Judicial Watch twice last night. The two tweets were about Judicial Watch's latest press release discussing new Clinton emails uncovered and a segment from Judicial Watch's Weekly Update.

The retweets are below here:

- 
- 

[Help us continue this vital work with your most generous gift today. Thank you for your continued support!](#)



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**From:** Tom Fitton <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 9:25 AM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Illegal Aliens Voters?

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Judicial Watch

Dear Fellow American,

We have all heard about voter fraud and attempts by liberal media organs like *The New York Times* and leftist politicians to dismiss it as a nonexistent problem.

***But voter fraud is in fact real, widespread, and substantial to the point that it can and does decide elections. It also drives honest citizens out of the democratic process and breeds distrust in our government.***

I, like most Americans, believe that voting is a highly valued right and serious responsibility of American citizenship. And clean, accurate voter registration rolls, as well as commonsense laws requiring voter ID help stop voter fraud and voting by individuals ineligible to vote.

That's why Judicial Watch's filed lawsuits against the states of **Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky** that resulted in those states agreeing to comply with that National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) by cleaning their voter rolls.

But there's more to do. You see, there are many other states that have not been cleaning their voter rolls as required by law and we've issued notices to a dozen of them that they need to comply with the law – or perhaps face a lawsuit from Judicial Watch.

**And that's why I hope you will help Judicial Watch now as we expand our fight for clean and fair elections.**

Lawsuits are costly, especially when we're fighting the government! But this is indeed a critical battle for the rule of law, and for the future of our nation. And that's why your support of our work is so important.

**Please make your best donation now to Judicial Watch so we can fight for clean elections and carry out our work fighting government corruption.**

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Tom Fitton  
President

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**From:** JW Corruption Chronicles <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 23, 2019 10:02 AM EST

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** Illegal Immigrants Who Stabbed Classmate “Previously Confirmed as MS-13 Gang Members”

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CORRUPTION CHRONICLES

## Illegal Immigrants Who Stabbed Classmate “Previously Confirmed as MS-13 Gang Members”

Three illegal immigrant public high school students who recently attacked and stabbed a classmate in New York were “[previously confirmed as MS-13 gang members](#)” by local police, according to the Suffolk County District Attorney’s office. Two of them had been detained by federal authorities and released by a judge.

Days before they attacked a fellow student, a mainstream newspaper targeted their high school for helping deport an illegal alien suspected of belonging to the same violent street gang. Conveniently, the newspaper failed to report the violent stabbing after blasting the school for removing a suspected gang member just days earlier. The [hit piece](#) criticized the Trump administration’s MS-13 crackdown for destroying the “American dreams of immigrant teenagers around the country.”

To support this idea, the story prominently featured a 19-year-old illegal immigrant from Honduras attending the same Long Island public school, Huntington High, that counts the MS-13 perpetrators among its students.

The Honduran illegal alien, described as a “shy teenager” named Alex in the lengthy article, got deported after a school resource officer reported that the student may have gang ties. This caused a ruckus among community leaders and school officials, who support open borders and oppose a collaboration between local and federal law enforcement when it comes to immigration matters.

Now the school district is reviewing its relationship with the Suffolk County Police Department, according to a [local news](#) report, and community leaders are demanding that illegal immigrants be protected. At a heated school board meeting on the eve of the stabbing, community leaders demanded that campus resource officers not cooperate with the feds. One woman proclaimed that there should be no “school-to-deportation pipeline.” Another insisted that the deported Honduran man be united with his family in the U.S.

Less than 24 hours later three “known MS-13 gang members” also Huntington High students, attacked and stabbed a 16-year-old classmate behind a Long Island fast-food eatery after school. The Suffolk County District Attorney’s office [identifies](#) the defendants as Ramon Arevalo Lopez, 19, Oscar Canales Molina, 17, and Nobeli Montes Zuniga, 20. They have been charged with second-degree assault and authorities confirm they, not only entered the country illegally, but also appear on a police database of gang members. “All three defendants were previously confirmed as MS-13 gang members by the Suffolk County Police Department,” the Suffolk County District Attorney confirms. Arevalo Lopez was detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in late 2017 and released by a federal judge less than a year later, according to county prosecutors. Canales Molina was also released by a federal judge after being detained in mid-2017.

As newsworthy—and disturbing—as this may seem, the mainstream newspaper that condemned the deportation of a suspected gang member from the same public high school has been noticeably silent. A conglomerate of local newspapers has taken the lead by publishing a [hard-hitting piece](#) slamming community leaders and school officials that choose to protect violent illegal immigrants over students. It points out that the MS-13 attackers are not kids, but adult men and all

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three are so-called dreamers.

“The police and the high school need to protect our children,” the piece states. “Can you imagine sending your 14-year old freshman to a school with adult men 20-year old gang members? Even after the school identifies the adult men as members of a murder gang? Something is seriously broken here. We need a zero tolerance policy and to expel and—if illegal deport —anyone involved with MS-13. The high school and the police have a lot of explaining to do.”

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: Steele was Working for the Clinton Camp to Target President Trump

August 10, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Hannity” on the Fox News Channel to discuss Judicial Watch lawsuits for DOJ for access to communications between Bruce Ohr, Christopher Steele and Fusion GPS.

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Article-Image

### Chris Farrell: Hypocrisy in treatment of Paul Manafort vs. Podesta Boys

On July 27, 2018, Judicial Watch Director of Investigations and Research Chris Farrell appeared on “Lou Dobbs Tonight” on the Fox Business Network to discuss former Bernie Sanders adviser Tad Devine agreed to assist federal prosecutors in a case against former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort.

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Article-Image

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**From:** JW Newslink <press@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 09, 2019 4:33 PM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** In Mueller's wake, Graham vows to investigate alleged FISA abuse, Clinton campaign

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NEWSLINK

## BREAKING NEWS...

600x300

### In Mueller's wake, Graham vows to investigate alleged FISA abuse, Clinton campaign

Source: [ABC News](#)

GOP Sen. Lindsey Graham said that he will use his authority as chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee to potentially "look into the other side" of the story now that special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation is complete.

[READ MORE](#)

## Background Notes from Judicial Watch

180x150x1

2018-12-03

**Judicial Watch Sues  
for Records of FBI  
Meetings with  
Clinton-DNC Law  
Firm**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Judicial Watch filed a

FOIA)= lawsuit against the Department of Justice for records of meetings i between former FBI General Counsel James Baker and the Perkins Coie law firm. The Clinton campaign and the Democratic National Committee (DNC) reportedly paid Fusion GPS to create the “salacious and unverified” Clinton-DNC anti-Trump dossier.

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180x150x2

2019-03-24

**Judicial Watch  
Issues Statement on  
Mueller Report**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

The targeting of President Trump served to protect Hillary Clinton and her enablers/co-conspirators in Obama administration from prosecution. Attorney General Barr can begin restoring the credibility of the Justice Department by finally initiating a thorough investigation of the Clinton emails and related pay-to-play scandals and the abuses behind the targeting of President Trump.

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180x150x3

2019-02-15

**Docs Reveal FBI  
Cover Up of ‘Chart’  
of Potential  
Violations of Law by  
Hillary Clinton**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Judicial Watch received 186 pages of records from the Department of Justice that include emails documenting an evident cover-up of a chart of potential violations of law by former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

Judicial Watch is seeking all communications between FBI official Peter Strzok and FBI attorney Lisa Page.

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## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: Steele was Working for the Clinton Camp to Target President Trump

August 10, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "Hannity" on the Fox News Channel to discuss Judicial Watch lawsuits for DOJ for access to communications between Bruce Ohr, Christopher Steele and Fusion GPS.

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Article-Image

### Tom Fitton on WMAL: Hillary Clinton ORDERED by Court to Answer Key Questions on Email Server

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "Mornings on the Mall" on WMAL Radio to discuss U.S. District Court Judge Emmet G. Sullivan ruled that within 30 days Clinton must answer under oath two additional questions about her controversial email system.

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Article-Image

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**From:** Inside JW <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 17, 2019 3:52 PM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Inside Judicial Watch: Our Top 5 Investigations of 2018 (VIDEO)

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## Inside Judicial Watch: Our Top 5 Investigations of 2018

□

In this episode of “Inside Judicial Watch,” Senior Investigator William F. Marshall discusses some of our most significant investigations & corruption finds that took place in 2018, including the FISA abuse scandal, the infamous Clinton/Lynch tarmac meeting in 2016, the Mueller probe, and illegal immigration.

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: Rosenstein Needs to be Removed or Investigated

September 25, 2018- Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on the “Intelligence Report with Trish Regan” on the Fox Business Network to discuss what to expect from President Trump’s meeting with Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein.

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**From:** Ed Feulner <info@heritage.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 11, 2017 5:16 PM EDT  
**To:** Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Is this for you?

Dear Robert,

President Trump and conservative lawmakers are working hard to change Washington and reclaim America on behalf of your conservative ideals.

But it's not just up to people on Capitol Hill. America needs firm leadership at all levels. Leaders who believe in free enterprise, limited government, individual freedom, traditional American values, and a strong national defense.

And through [The Heritage Foundation's Leaders Club](#), you can provide that leadership.

[That's why we created the Leaders Club](#): to allow the most dedicated conservatives -- conservatives like you -- a way to stay engaged in the ongoing fight by making a monthly contribution to advance conservative policy solutions.

Because of the arduous fight ahead, we are opening 400 new spaces in the Leaders Club, to fill by October 13, 2017. I'd like you to join.

[The exclusive Leaders Club is only for our most dedicated patriots. Find out more about how you can secure a membership in the Leaders Club.](#)

Thanks for everything you do for Heritage and the conservative cause.

Onward!

Ed Feulner  
President

The Heritage Foundation

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-

**From:** Twitter <info@twitter.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 16, 2017 7:50 PM EDT  
**To:** Hinson, Linda <LHinson@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Jerry Holland Tweeted: I am equally proud of all of my staff. I have never seen any group work harder to help the taxpayers of Duval...

## Your Highlights

 **Jerry Holland**  
@JerryHollandFL

I am equally proud of all of my staff. I have never seen any group work harder to help the taxpayers of Duval... [fb.me/6FvFsq5hS](https://fb.me/6FvFsq5hS)

 **Dan Elkin..**  
@RevElkins

There are so many difficult situations going on with current & former students of ours. God knows. Prayers appreciated!

   6

 **DRUDGE REPORT**  
@DRUDGE\_REPORT

Babies From Skin Cells?

### Babies From Skin Cells? Looming Advance Unsettles Some Experts

Researchers say that scientists may soon be able to create a baby from human skin cells that ... [more](#)  
nytimes.com

  8  6

 **Heritage Foundation**   
@Heritage

To clean up the UN we need to put muscle behind whistleblower support.

### To Clean Up the U.N., We Need to Put Muscle Behind Whistleblower Support | The Heritage Foundation

The United Nations and its employees enjoy broad immunities that insulate them from external ... [more](#)  
heritage.org

  23  39

 **Jax Young Democrats**  
@JaxYoungDems

We are in the paper!! Will you be at the Duval Voter Outreach Project launch on Weds at 6 at Bay St Bar and Grill... [fb.me/12liK5z1s](https://fb.me/12liK5z1s)

 **Chris Sprowls**  
@ChrisSprowls

Great column by @JasonFischerFL on why [#HB7069](#) is in the best interest of Florida kids: [#Sayfie](#)

### Guest Column: Governor should sign bill that supports better education in public schools

Over the past few days, many district superintendents and other defenders of the struggling s... [more](#)  
jacksonville.com

13 13

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Twitter

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We sent this email to @LhinsonLinda

Twitter, Inc. 1355 Market Street, Suite 900 San Francisco, CA 94103

**From:** Twitter <info@twitter.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 31, 2017 3:44 PM EST  
**To:** Hinson, Linda <LHinson@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Joe V Tweeted: Go get em' young blood

# Your Highlights

Joe V

@Joe\_V\_

Go get em' young blood [twitter.com/eXjones6/statu...](#)

Joe V

@UF Class of '09. Father. Husband. Recruiting analyst for...

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GatorsCenter

@GatorsCenter

Former #Gator gets his first INT as a rookie. Congrats, Jarrad! #GatorMade [twitter.com/lions/status/9...](#)

GatorsCenter

The best Florida Gators fan page! Follows us for...

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James Croft

@crizoft

Wow. Be careful with space heaters, folks. Leave ample space around them and keep flammable materials like drapes and blankets away. [twitter.com/JFRDJAX/status...](#)

James Croft

Public affairs for @CityofJax. Dad. Jax Native. JU & UNF...

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The Daily Caller

@DailyCaller

Trump Cans Multi-Billion Dollar Obama Proposal For New Jersey, New York Rail Line [trib.al/SHPYUsO](#)  
[pic.twitter.com/XrMcguA5Wy](#)

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6 others replied

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 **Nate Monroe**  
@NateMonroeTU

RT [@StevePatTU](#): Be at prison Jan. 29, judge tells charity head tied to ex-U.S. Rep. Corrine Brown via [@jaxdotcom](#)

jacksonville.com

Be at prison Jan. 29, judge tells c...

default image

**Nate Monroe**

Florida Times-Union city hall reporter (@jaxdotcom)...

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@Heritage

1 in 4 jobs are now restricted by licensing requirements—and these onerous rules generally do nothing to improve service or protect people. [#occupationallicensing](#)

heritage.org

How Licensing Laws Protect Special

...

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We sent this email to @LhinsonLinda

Twitter, Inc. 1355 Market Street, Suite 900 San Francisco, CA 94103

**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 10:46 AM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** Judge says Census citizenship question not a privacy concern. DOJ and DHS announce no foreign meddling in 2018 elections; while Democrats push to kill the Electoral College

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Judge says Census [citizenship question not a privacy concern](#). DOJ and DHS announce [no foreign meddling in 2018 elections](#); while [Democrats push to kill the Electoral College](#). [Arizona seeks change in mail-in balloting](#); California vows to find out [what went wrong with its Motor-Voter](#); and [Palm Beach County springs for new voting equipment](#). Georgia district with [election returns tossed out twice being investigated by SOS](#); Maine's Clean Elections Act [proved to be a dud](#); and [N.H. judge rejects demand](#) for voter database turnover. On a positive note, [Nevada GOP seeks Voter ID](#), and [N.C. is getting ready to implement its ID law](#). All this and more [in the EIB](#).

## LEAD

### The Trump Administration Must Defend Citizenship on the 2020 Census

Conservatives support efforts by the Trump administration to include a question about citizenship on the 2020 Census. We urge the administration to actively appeal any efforts by leftist groups and others to have it removed. Questions about citizenship have a long history on the U.S. Census, having appeared regularly from 1820 through 1950, since it was proposed by Thomas Jefferson in 1800. It also appears regularly on the American Community Survey (ACS), which is sent to one out of every 38 households on an annual basis. Contrary to leftist claims, asking such a question will not result in a threat of deportation to respondents, or a downturn in census participation. The question is about citizenship—not legal status—and the Census Bureau is constrained by statute in sharing information about individual respondents. There is also no evidence that it will reduce the count among “had to count” populations. The judge’s ruling will, moreover, hand ever-increasing power to the administrative state, subtracting it from the executive power. We urge the Trump administration to offer a full-throated defense of its citizenship question on the 2020 Census, and urge the Supreme Court to weigh in swiftly on the growing abuse of national injunctions by the District courts.

## FEDERAL

### The Hill: Judge Doesn't Accept Privacy as Reason to Immediately Block Census Citizenship Question

A federal judge Friday said privacy concerns were not sufficient reason to immediately block a question about citizenship from the census, declining a request to offer a preliminary injunction. “The Court will deny the plaintiff’s motion for a preliminary injunction,” wrote Judge Dabney L. Friedrich. She argued that the Electronic Privacy Information Center, which requested the injunction, did not sufficiently prove that the government needed to do a “privacy impact assessment” before it could add a question to the census. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross first announced in March of last year that he would add a question about citizenship to the 2020 census. “The Bureau did not act contrary to the E-Government Act by deciding to collect citizenship data before conducting, reviewing, or releasing a PIA addressing that decision,” she wrote. “Nor have the defendants ‘unlawfully withheld’ agency action by declining to conduct or release a PIA earlier than they were required to under the statute.” She determined that the government did not have to conduct the assessments until “until the Bureau mails its first batch of Census questionnaires to the public.”

### Washington Times: No Impact from Foreign Meddling in 2018 Election

Foreign governments did not sway the 2018 elections, the Justice and Homeland Security departments announced Tuesday, saying the vote came off without any evidence of the kinds of breaches that tainted the 2016 presidential vote. The two departments said they’ve completed a presidentially ordered report using data compiled by the intelligence community. While the study is classified, the departments said there are no indications of successful interference. “The departments have concluded there is no evidence

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to date that any identified activities of a foreign government or foreign agent had a material impact on the integrity or security of election infrastructure or political/campaign infrastructure used in the 2018 midterm elections for the United States Congress," the departments said. Officials say they were better prepared this time, conducting vulnerability reviews for state and local elections officials.

### **Free Beacon: Dems Push National Popular Vote in Newly Controlled 'Trifecta' States**

Democrats are reigniting a decade-long push for a constitutionally dubious workaround to the Electoral College, with the most ambitious efforts coming in two western states in which the left gained the political "trifecta" of owning the governor's seat and both chambers of the state legislature after the 2018 elections. The National Popular Vote Interstate Compact, or NPV, creates an agreement by all states that have entered into it, whereby their Electoral College votes are cast for the candidate who wins the most individual votes nationwide, not who wins the most in that state. Central to the compact is the legal trigger that it would not take effect until the number of Electoral College votes of all the states entered in surpasses 270, the key number required to win the presidency. With 11 states and the District of Columbia agreeing to participate, the NPV Electoral College vote tally stands at 172.

## **STATES**

### **Arizona: The Fate of Arizona's Mail-In Ballot Drop-Offs Still in Debate**

The state Senate has given its preliminary OK to a bill that would make changes to the state's early voting system, but its future still remains unclear. Sen. Michelle Ugenti-Rita, a Scottsdale Republican, sponsored Senate Bill 1046, which states voters who get their ballot in the mail can only return it in the mail and may not drop it off at a polling place on Election Day. Under the current system, early ballots dropped off on Election Day are among the last to be counted. This bill, Ugenti-Rita said, would speed the process up. She argued her point on the Senate floor Wednesday. Republican Sylvia Allen of Snowflake, a supporter of the measure, said it's a common-sense change and would put the onus back on the voters. The Secretary of State reports more than 250,000 voters dropped off their early ballots at polling places on Election Day in November. The measure was approved on a voice vote in the Senate Wednesday, but still faces a roll-call vote in that chamber. A pair of Republicans have said they do not plan to support it, which would lead to its defeat.

### **California: California Vows to Probe Motor-Voter Troubles**

The state of California will investigate and disclose how many voters could not cast ballots in the 2018 election due to problems with its motor voter program and whether the missing votes could have changed the outcome of any races under the terms of a settlement approved Tuesday. In December last year, California Secretary of State Alex Padilla revealed at least 589 people could not vote in the election due to the delays in transmitting voter information from the state Department of Motor Vehicles to his office. On Tuesday, U.S. Magistrate Judge Laurel Beeler approved a new settlement that requires the state to provide monthly updates on its investigation of affected voters and election outcomes. Under the terms of that agreement, the state will also appoint a management-level voting rights coordinator, investigate causes behind the delayed voter ID transmissions, create a detailed corrective plan and roll out new required trainings for DMV employees. Additionally, the state vowed to send letters to all affected voters and tell them how to verify that they are now registered to vote.

### **Colorado: Mom, Frustrated at Kids' Apathy, Casts Son's Ballot**

A Grand Junction woman was arrested on suspicion of misdemeanor voter fraud after she allegedly cast a mail-in ballot for her adult son last fall after becoming frustrated that her adult children didn't seem to be voting, according to the Mesa County District Attorney's Office. Gail Arlene Gray, 66, told an investigator she "did a terrible thing" but she was "really (angry) at my kids for not voting, none of them were voting and then that (ballot) came in the mail and I didn't even think, I thought I am going to vote for him..." according to an arrest affidavit released Thursday. Gray was booked on a "quick book and release" at the Mesa County Jail and handed a \$2,500 personal recognizance bond, meaning she could sign herself out of the jail.

### **Florida: Election Debacle Leads to \$15 Million Voting Overhaul in Palm Beach County**

The purchases include 975 vote scanners, 525 voting machines for people with disabilities, 10 high-speed tabulators, a new voter registration and check-in system and an assortment of other computers, cabinets,

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000355

wires and printers. The \$15 million is \$4 million more than former Supervisor of Elections Susan Bucher had requested when she asked for updated equipment. But Link said the higher price was essential to ensure parity with Florida's other counties. "Everything is going to be new," Link said after speaking to the commission. "We want to run a smooth election." The new machines and ballots will be ready for use by the 2020 elections but won't be available for the election scheduled next month. Link has been on the job only two weeks, after Bucher was suspended by new Gov. Ron DeSantis.

### **Florida: 83,000 Invalid Florida Votes Eclipsed Margin in Governor's Race**

Whether they meant to or not, more than 83,000 Florida voters didn't cast a valid vote for governor, according to a new report prepared by state officials. The combined total of invalid ballots outnumbered Republican Ron DeSantis's margin of victory over Democrat Andrew Gillum by more than 50,000 votes. The race between DeSantis and Gillum was so close that it triggered an automatic statewide recount.

More than 8.2 million votes were cast in the high-profile race for governor that attracted national attention. The total number of "non-valid votes" was 1 percent, which was a lower rate than either the 2016 presidential election or the 2014 governor's race. These "non-valid votes" include ballots with write-in names such as Mickey Mouse and ballots that were left blank. It also includes those with votes for more than one candidate. More than 50,000 of the invalid ballots were left blank, suggesting that some people opted to skip the governor's race.

### **Georgia: Secretary of State Investigate Voter Fraud in 28th District Race**

More controversy in the Georgia House District that has had election returns thrown out twice. Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger is now investigating potential voter fraud in the 28th District. The FOX 5 I-Team was there when a judge voided the second election after finding four citizens cast illegal votes.

### **Maine: Clean Election Funding Didn't Work in Maine. It Shouldn't Be Used Nationally.**

Sold under the false premise that it would "get outside money out of politics," a 2012 study by Duke University found the Maine Clean Elections Act did nothing to accomplish this goal. In the eight years analyzed by the study, outside independent expenditures to influence Maine state elections increased more than 400 percent after the institution of taxpayer-funded political campaigns. And it's easy to understand why. Well-known Maine Democratic lobbyist, Jim Mitchell, "gave the majority of his donations to candidates in 1998 and 2000 [before implementation of the program], but from 2002 on, he directed his donations to the Maine Democratic Party and the Maine Democratic House and Senate Campaign Committees," the report said. In short, since the inception of the program, Maine taxpayers have been forced to funnel \$40 million into a program to end special interest influence and the result is just as much special influence in these campaigns as there was before.

### **Mississippi: More Charges in Canton Voter Fraud Case**

Another former official has been charged with voter fraud in an unfolding investigation in a Mississippi town. Three indictments issued in January against retired Canton City Clerk Valerie Smith were unsealed this week. She's charged with 15 separate felony counts of falsely claiming a voter had sworn a registration application before her when they did not. Smith's lawyer didn't immediately respond to a phone call and email seeking comment. Smith faces up to a year in prison and a \$1,000 fine for each violation if she's convicted. Smith is the eighth person charged since December with misconduct in Canton's 2017 elections. Charges against others include bribing voters, improperly helping people fill out absentee ballots, voting despite being convicted of disqualifying felonies and voting while living outside the city or voting district.

### **Nevada: Nevada GOP Seeks Voter ID Measure on 2020 Ballot**

The Nevada Republican Party intends to place a voter ID measure on the 2020 ballot during the presidential election, a move that would likely generate turnout for the party. The party's website says it's forming a Special Committee to look at initiatives in other states and produce "solid recommendations so that we can take action as soon as the law allows us to start collecting signatures. "Once the Special Committee presents their report, the process of filing with the Secretary of State and gathering the required signatures will begin later in 2019." "With the vast majority of Americans supporting a voter identification requirement, protecting our elections shouldn't be a partisan issue," NVGOP Chairman Michael McDonald said. "However, with the current Legislature unwilling to pass commonsense reforms, Nevadans have



been left with no choice but to do it ourselves.”

### **New Hampshire: New Hampshire Supreme Court Denies Access to Voter Database in Suit Over Registration Law**

A request to produce a voter database that was ordered by a lower court as evidence in a lawsuit was denied by the New Hampshire Supreme Court. Chief Justice Robert Lynn issued a 10-page ruling on Jan. 24, vacating the New Hampshire Superior Court's order in the lawsuit filed by the League of Women Voters of New Hampshire, the New Hampshire Democratic Party, and several individuals in a challenge to a voter registration law. The high court concluded that the Superior Court erred ordering the state's secretary of state and attorney general to produce the New Hampshire Centralized Voter Registration Database, concluding that the list is "exempt from disclosure by statute." Despite proposed limitations on what information could be used, the state authorities filed for a petition for original jurisdiction at the Supreme Court, which vacated the order.

### **North Carolina: Election Official Sentenced for Urging Mexican Citizen to Vote in U.S.**

Federal prosecutors won a two-month prison sentence this week against a North Carolina elections official who pushed a Mexican citizen to register and vote in the 2016 election. Denslo Allen Paige, 66, who had worked as a precinct official in Wake County, pleaded guilty to aiding and abetting Guadalupe Espinosa-Pena to sign up. Prosecutors said Paige was aware Mr. Espinosa-Pena wasn't eligible to vote but told him that "if he wanted his voice to be heard, he needed to vote." She then helped him fill out his form — but had him leave the box for citizenship blank. Paige submitted the form, and, at some point the box for citizenship was checked, prosecutors say. "When a non-citizen votes in a federal election it serves to dilute and devalue the vote of American citizens and places the decision-making authority of the American electorate in the hands of those who have no right to make those choices," said Robert J. Higdon Jr., the U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina.

### **North Carolina: State Board of Elections Plan to Implement New Voter ID Law**

Starting May 1, those who don't have a photo ID will be able to get one for free from their county's board of elections. The new Voter ID law enacted at the end of last year requires voters to show IDs when casting a ballot. The mandate also includes a wider variety of acceptable IDs, including state-issued IDs and student IDs at state colleges and universities. Voters will have until the end of the early voting period to get a photo ID from their county's board of elections office.

### **Pennsylvania: PA Admits Thousands Illegally Registered to Vote in State**

Last week, Pennsylvania was forced to admit that it had illegally registered approximately 11,200 noncitizens to vote, and election officials have been ordered to immediately purge all those names from the state's voter rolls. Pennsylvania State Rep. Daryl Metcalfe told The Washington Times that the state's Democratic governor, Tom Wolf, has finally acknowledged the illegal registration after a back-and-forth legal fight.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **SCOTUS Blog: Much Ado About Partisan Gerrymandering**

For more than 30 years, the Supreme Court has struggled to articulate a standard for evaluating partisan-gerrymandering claims. The reason is simple: There is no workable standard. Redistricting is a quintessential lawmaking function, one that the Constitution reserves to the states. Court intervention should be reserved for the most egregious of violations, not political disagreements. Yet challengers keep knocking at courthouse doors asking for a standard. These challenges tie up the lower courts in extensive and expensive fact-finding and litigation, which predictably begins anew following each round of redistricting. After sidestepping the issue in 2018, the Supreme Court decided to hear two partisan gerrymandering cases this March. One case, *Lamone v. Benisek*, involves a challenge to a single Maryland congressional district. The other case, *Rucho v. Common Cause*, involves a challenge to North Carolina's congressional map. These cases present an opportunity for the Supreme Court to put an end to the flurry of unmerited litigation following the enactment of a new redistricting plan in a given state. The timing could not be better as the 2020 census approaches.

Representative Steven Harris, R-Meridian, has proposed adding a seventh member to the committee that draws legislative district lines. The seventh member under Harris' proposal would be chosen by the governor, lieutenant governor, treasurer, controller and superintendent of schools. Idaho voters passed a constitutional amendment in 1994 creating the current Commission for Reapportionment, which consists of three members appointed by Republicans and three by Democrats. Harris' proposal to change it is also a constitutional amendment, meaning it would need two-thirds support in both chambers of the Legislature and then would also have to be approved by a majority of voters.

#### **North Carolina: Do NC and TX Face More Election Lawsuits than all Other States Combined?**

In the last few years, state legislators have been sued multiple times, accused of drawing unlawful maps. And, in some cases, judges have ordered redraws. "North Carolina and Texas have more (redistricting) litigation than the other 48 states, combined," State Rep. David Lewis said.

#### **The American Civil Rights Union**

3213 Duke St., #625

Alexandria, VA 22314

<http://www.theacru.org>

<http://www.votingintegrityinstitute.org>

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**From:** Judicial Watch <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 24, 2019 5:29 PM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Judicial Watch Statement on Mueller Report

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## Judicial Watch Statement on Mueller Report

(Washington, DC) — Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton made the following statement in response to the Muller special counsel report summary made public by Attorney General Barr today:

The long, national nightmare is over and President Trump has been vindicated. The corruptly-created and constitutionally abusive Mueller investigation failed to find any evidence to support the big lie that the Trump campaign colluded with the Russian government.

We're pleased that AG Barr rejected Mueller's attempt to smear President Trump with obstruction of justice innuendo by concluding that no such charges could be credibly sustained. Frankly, Mueller never had a valid basis upon which to investigate President Trump for obstruction of justice.

Let's be clear, neither Mueller, the Obama FBI, DOJ, CIA, State Department, nor the Deep State ever had a good-faith basis to pursue President Trump on Russia collusion. Russia collusion wasn't just

a hoax, it is a criminal abuse, which is why Judicial Watch has fought and will continue to fight for Russiagate documents in federal court.

The targeting of President Trump served to protect Hillary Clinton and her enablers/co-conspirators in Obama administration from prosecution. Attorney General Barr can begin restoring the credibility of the Justice Department by finally initiating a thorough investigation of the Clinton emails and related pay-to-play scandals and the abuses behind the targeting of President Trump.

Judicial Watch has long called for the shutdown of the Mueller special counsel operation and has pursued dozens of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuits into the illicit targeting and other abuses of President Trump. Judicial Watch FOIA litigation exposed, for example:

- The dossier-based Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) warrant applications targeting President Trump
- FBI payments to Christopher Steele
- FBI firing of Steele
- Extensive DOJ (Ohr) collusion w/Steele, Simpson, Fusion GPS
- No court hearings by defrauded FISA courts before warrants were issued
- Anti-Trump bias by Mueller deputy Andrew Weissmann

###

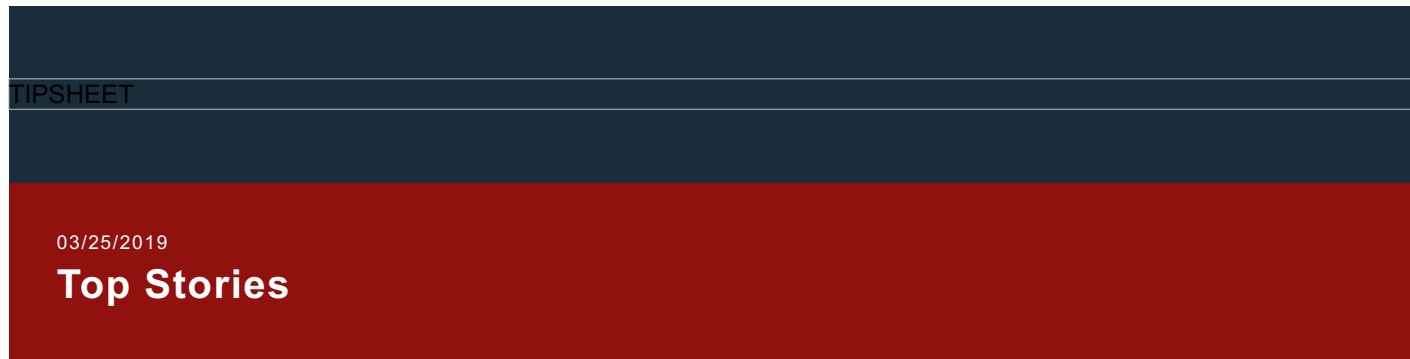
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**From:** JW Tipsheet <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 25, 2019 10:47 AM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Judicial Watch Statement on Mueller Report

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IMAGE

### Judicial Watch Statement on Mueller Report

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton made the following statement in response to the Muller special counsel report summary made public by Attorney General Barr today...

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### JW Uncovers Classified Info on Clinton Email Server

Hillary Clinton repeatedly stated that the 55,000 pages of documents she turned over to the State Department in December 2014 included all of her work-related emails...

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IMAGE

### JW Uncovers More Classified Emails in Hillary Clinton's Unsecure Email System

Judicial Watch today announced it received 756 pages of newly uncovered emails that were among the materials former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton tried to delete or destroy, several of which were classified and were transmitted over her unsecure, non-"state.gov" email system...

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## **Fla. May Become 13th State to Give Illegal Immigrants Driver's Licenses**

Illegal immigrants could get valid Florida driver's licenses under proposed legislation that would accept foreign passports, international birth certificates and Mexican consular cards as proof of identity...

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## **Must Read**

**Newly Uncovered Clinton Email Exchange Describes Plan To Thwart U.S. 'Jewish Leadership'**- *Daily Wire*- On Thursday, Judicial Watch released what it says is likely the "final batch" of emails recovered or found by the FBI among the 33,000 emails Hillary Clinton tried to "delete or destroy" from her unsecured private email server... [Read more](#)

Keep our investigators on the job uncovering the truth:

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**Watchdog releases final batch of Hillary Clinton emails from FBI**- *Washington Examiner*- A conservative watchdog group received the final tranche of emails recovered by the FBI from former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton that were transmitted on her unauthorized, private email system... [Read more](#)

**Hillary Clinton tried to establish a secret back channel to Israel**- *Daily Mail*- A new slew of classified emails from Hillary Clinton's private email server show that she discussed setting up a 'private, 100% off-the-record' back channel to Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu... [Read more](#)

## **Must Watch**

**Tom Fitton: Deep State DOJ Has Zero Interest in Investigating Hillary Clinton**- March 22, 2019- [Watch Now!](#)

**Tom Fitton: House Dems are Harrassing the President with Abusive Investigations**- March 21, 2019- [Watch Now!](#)

**Tom Fitton: Rosenstein/Mueller Control the DOJ- Business As Usual at the Deep State**- March 21, 2019- [Watch Now!](#)

**On Watch: Designating Cartels "Terrorist Organizations"**- March 21, 2019- [Watch Now!](#)

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## Tom Fitton: At this Point, Mueller Probe is ‘Harassment’

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Fox & Friends First” weighed in on the special counsel probe’s impact over the last year and what it could mean for Mueller’s final report, reportedly expected by February.

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IMAGE

## Tom Fitton: At Least 11 FBI Payments went to Steele

August 5, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Fox and Friends” on the Fox News Channel to discuss The FB I released 71 pages of redacted documents tied to the bureau’s relationship with Christopher Steele.

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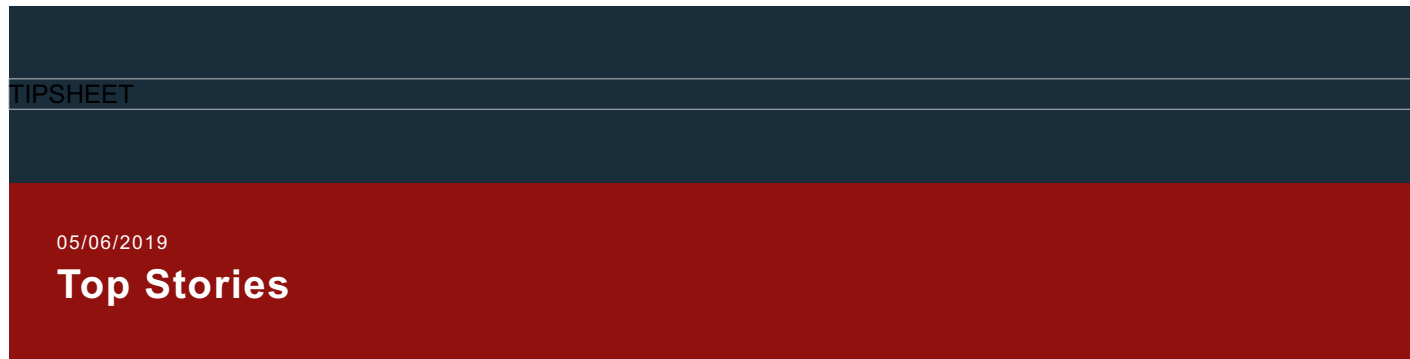
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**From:** JW Tipsheet <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 10:48 AM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Judicial Watch Sues DOJ for Communications between key Peter Strzok and Bruce Ohr

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IMAGE

### Judicial Watch Sues DOJ for Communications between key Peter Strzok and Bruce Ohr

Judicial Watch announced today it filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Justice for communications between two of the pivotal players in the Deep State, anti-Trump collusion – former FBI official Peter Strzok and Justice Department official Bruce Ohr...

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### Judicial Watch Sues WMATA on Behalf of DC Metro Watchdog for Customer Satisfaction Survey

Judicial Watch announced today that it filed a Public Access to Records Policy lawsuit against the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority ("Metro") and its General Manager, Paul Wiedefeld, on behalf of Unsuck DC Metro for an unredacted version of their Customer Satisfaction Tracking Study...

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IMAGE

**Top Hillary Clinton Aide Admits Under Oath that He and Clinton Used Unsecure Personal Email for Official State Department Business**

Judicial Watch today released the transcript of a court-ordered deposition of Jacob “Jake” Sullivan, Hillary Clinton’s senior advisor and deputy chief of staff when she was secretary of state, in which the top staffer admits that both he and Clinton used her unsecure non-government email system to conduct official State Department business...

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## Judicial Watch Sues HHS for Documents on Human Fetal Tissue Used in ‘Humanized Mice’ Testing

Judicial Watch announced today it filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) seeking Food and Drug Administration (FDA) documents about the purchase and use of human fetal tissue obtained from abortion clinics that was used by FDA researchers in “humanized mice” testing...

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## Must Read

**Growing number of illegals from terror nations are residents in U.S.–** *World Tribune*– More than 10,000 illegal immigrants from countries that the United States has designated as state sponsors of terrorism have been ordered removed or have pending final orders of removal, but are still currently living in the U.S., Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) records show... [Read more](#)

**Mark Meadows sends criminal referral targeting Nellie Ohr to DOJ–** *Washington Examiner*- Nellie Ohr, the wife of Justice Department official Bruce Ohr, is the subject of a criminal referral sent to the Justice Department on Wednesday... [Read more](#)

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## Must Watch

Tom Fitton: Barack Obama Should be Questioned Under Oath about SpyGate & Trump Targeting- April 30, 2019- [Watch Now!](#)

Tom Fitton: DNC Worked With Russian Intel to Overthrow the President- April 30, 2019- [Watch Now!](#)

Tom Fitton: AG Barr Should Investigate Anti-Trump Coup...Mueller Report Full of Gossip & Innuendo!- May 2, 2019- [Watch Now!](#)

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## Tom Fitton: At Least 11 FBI Payments went to Steele

August 5, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Fox and Friends” on the Fox News Channel to discuss The FBI released 71 pages of redacted documents tied to the bureau’s relationship with Christopher Steele.

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## Tom Fitton: A DOJ Spying Investigation would be a Win for the Rule of Law

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Fox and Friends” on the Fox News Channel to discuss President Trump’s request for a DOJ probe into whether the FBI infiltrated his campaign.

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**From:** JW NewsWatch <press@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 21, 2019 2:04 PM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Judicial Watch Sues for Andrew McCabe 'Coups' Documents

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NEWSWATCH

## KEY RELEASE

600x300

### Judicial Watch Sues for Andrew McCabe 'Coups' Documents

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Judicial Watch filed a FOIA lawsuit against the Department of Justice for all communications of former FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe, the Office of the Attorney General Jeff Sessions, or the Office of Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein discussing the 25th Amendment or presidential fitness.

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## MAJOR MEDIA REPORTS

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2019-02-19

**How Republicans  
really feel about  
Trump**

Source: [The Washington Times](#)

Judicial Watch reports that  
it has filed a Freedom of  
Information Act lawsuit

against the Justice Department seeking "all records of communication of former FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe, the Office of the Attorney General Jeff Sessions, or the Office of Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein discussing the 25th Amendment or presidential fitness."

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2019-02-19

**Judicial Watch Sues DOJ: We Face DOJ/FBI 'Cover-Up' of Planned 'Coups' Against President Trump'**

Source: [CNSNews](#)

The purpose of Judicial Watch's (FOIA lawsuit is to obtain "all written and audio/visual records of any FBI/DOJ discussions regarding the 25th Amendment and plans to secretly record President Trump in the Oval Office."

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2019-02-19

**Judicial Watch Sues for Documents Surrounding DOJ, FBI Plans to Oust Trump With the 25th Amendment**

Source: [Townhall](#)

Government watchdog Judicial Watch has issued a Freedom of Information

Act lawsuit against the Department of Justice for documents surrounding official efforts to oust President Trump through the 25th amendment.

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## QUOTABLE

100x100

“This effort to overthrow President Trump is a fundamental threat to our constitutional republic so Judicial Watch will do everything it can in the courts to expose everything possible about this lawlessness.”

- **Tom Fitton**  
**Judicial Watch President**

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: At Least 11 FBI Payments went to Steele

August 5, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Fox and Friends” on the Fox News Channel to discuss The FBI released 71 pages of redacted documents tied to the bureau’s relationship with Christopher Steele.

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## Tom Fitton: Hillary Clinton Should Testify Under Oath

October 3, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Mornings on the Mall” on WMAL to discuss the 288 newly uncovered Hillary Clinton emails containing classified information.

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**From:** JW Tipsheet <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Monday, April 08, 2019 1:26 PM EDT

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** Judicial Watch Sues State Depart for Obama Ambassador Victoria Nuland's Communications Related to the Anti-Trump Dossier

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TIPSHEET

04/08/2019

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### Judicial Watch Sues State Depart for Obama Ambassador Victoria Nuland's Communications Related to the Anti-Trump Dossier

Judicial Watch filed a FOIA lawsuit against the U.S. Department of State for communications between Obama Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs Ambassador Victoria Nuland and employees of Fusion GPS...

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### Judicial Watch Sues DOJ for Roger Stone Raid Documents

Judicial Watch announced today that it filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Justice for records of the planning and preparation of the raid of the home of former Trump campaign aide Roger Stone...

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### IB: De Blasio's FOIL Fail

Judicial Watch's probe into the murder of NYPD Patrolman Phillip Cardillo is heading back to court in New York. Cardillo

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was murdered more than four decades ago, but the NYPD has advanced the preposterous legal claim that its investigation is still “active and ongoing” to deny Judicial Watch documents in the case...

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## **JW Sues for Details of an Intelligence Office Meeting with FBI Regarding Security Threats Caused by Hillary Clinton’s Illicit Email System**

Judicial Watch announced today that it is suing the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) for details of a meeting with the FBI regarding national security threats associated with former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton’s “private” email system...

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## **Must Read**

**Stream of anti-Trump media reports clashes with Mueller findings on Russia collusion-** *Washington Times*– Special counsel Robert Mueller’s no-conspiracy finding casts doubt on the liberal media’s widely reported allegations that Trump campaign officials conducted a steady stream of secret communications with Kremlin intelligence during the 2016 election... [Read more](#)

**Tom Fitton — Spygate “The Worst Corruption Scandal in American History”-** *Epoch Times*- On this episode of American Thought Leaders we talk with Tom Fitton, President of Judicial Watch... [Read more](#)

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## **Must Watch**

**Tom Fitton: Rep. Adam Schiff Should Step Down–CANNOT Be Trusted to Handle Classified Info-** April 2, 2019- [Watch Now!](#)

**Tom Fitton: Our Republic on the Brink with the Border Crisis and the Effort to Overthrow Trump-** April 4, 2019- [Watch Now!](#)

**Tom Fitton’s Video Weekly Update – April 5, 2019-** [Watch Now!](#)

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**Daywatch Updates**

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### Tom Fitton: Robert Mueller is Being Protected by Rod Rosenstein over Trump/Russia Probe

October 23, 2018 – JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Daily Ledger” on One America News Network to discuss the Mueller Probe and Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein’s closed congressional testimony.

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IMAGE

### Tom Fitton: Rosenstein Needs to be Removed or Investigated

September 25, 2018- Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on the “Intelligence Report with Trish Regan” on the Fox Business Network to discuss what to expect from President Trump’s meeting with Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein.

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**From:** Tom Fitton <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 25, 2019 5:38 PM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: Air Pelosi Exposed

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INSIDE JW

## Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: Air Pelosi Exposed

### *Documents Detail Nancy Pelosi's Love of Flying at Our Expense*

Nancy Pelosi's plan to fly into a war zone to thank the troops, which President Trump put on hold, was *déjà vu* all over again. We've been watching her taxpayer-supported travel for years. I discuss our prior work [here](#) in an op-ed for Fox News.

Just this week, we released [documents](#) we obtained through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the Air Force that detail [\\$134,587.81](#) plus [\\$50,000](#) for an advance of funds for an "escort officer" for a total of \$184,587.81 for then-House Minority Leader Pelosi's Congressional delegation (CODEL) to [Italy and Ukraine](#) in 2015.

We filed a December 2015 FOIA [lawsuit](#) after the Air Force failed to respond to an August 2015 request ([Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Defense](#) (No 1:15-cv-02236)) for:

- All records regarding mission taskings of flights escorting members of Congress
- All records concerning transportation costs for transporting members of Congress
- All passenger manifests (DD-2131) for transporting members of Congress
- All weekly travel reports for members of Congress

The documents show that from July 30 to August 6, Pelosi took a trip to Milan, Rome and Naples, Italy, and Kiev, Ukraine, for herself, [her husband](#), several members of congress and their spouses. The Italy trip included Milan, Rome and Naples [with visits](#) to the Vatican Museum, Sistine Chapel, Duomo and viewing Da Vinci's "Last Supper."

The documents also show the Air Force's negative response to a Pelosi staff request for a [specific crew](#) for Pelosi's flight. An official notes that it: "would be a disastrous precedent to set even if it were possible." The Air Force further points out: "Our ARC crews have plenty to balance already with military duties and their civilian employers."

The documents also detail a [CODEL](#) trip for Senator Cory Gardner (R-CO), who traveled commercial flights [to Asia](#), including Tokyo and Okinawa, Japan; Seoul, Korea; plus Beijing and Hong Kong, China. This trip, with flights and per diems, cost at least [\\$26,009.03](#).

We [previously uncovered](#) that Pelosi's military travel cost the United States Air Force \$2,100,744.59 over one two-year period — \$101,429.14 of which was for in-flight expenses, including food and alcohol.

Our work exposing Pelosi's travel abuses resulted in her successor John Boehner [declining](#) to use Air Force luxury jets to travel to his Ohio congressional district.

Our leaders live like kings and queens at our expense, and this might be a good time for those who pay for it to rise up and

just say no.

□

## Your Tax Dollars: FOIA Goes to the Supreme Court

Judicial Watch is the nation's leading litigator of Freedom of Information Act actions. We know better than most that the rights guaranteed by this law must be constantly defended. Micah Morrison, our chief investigative reporter, [details](#) on one example in his latest *Investigative Bulletin*.

The Freedom of Information Act is headed to the Supreme Court. FOIA is a critical tool in the fight to make government more transparent and accountable. In 2017, the federal government fielded more than 800,000 FOIA requests. Many were shot down immediately as falling under one or more of the nine categories that Congress exempted from disclosure under FOIA, including broad swathes of information related to national security, law enforcement, personal privacy, privileged communications, and confidential commercial or financial information. A good overview of FOIA exemptions can be found [here](#).

The new case on the Supreme Court docket, [Food Marketing Institute v. Argus Leader Media](#), is focused on FOIA's Exemption 4, trade secrets and commercial information. The exemption protects "trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and that is privileged or confidential."

Want to know how a federal contractor is making use of your tax dollars? Interested in the activities of a federally regulated financial entity? You're in Exemption 4 territory.

Our FOIA friends at MuckRock [note](#) that the upcoming case could "either cement the public's right to know or severely restrict the ability to track the flow of tax dollars into private companies."

The case began in 2011 when the Sioux Falls Argus Leader decided to take a look at where food stamp money is spent. The newspaper filed a FOIA request with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which administers the program, these days referred to as SNAP, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. The Argus Leader asked the USDA for the name, address, store type and annual SNAP sales figures for every participating store from 2005 to 2010.

The public has "a right to know how much taxpayer money grocers, gas stations, big box retailers and others get by participating in the federal food stamp program," the newspaper [has written](#). "SNAP is a humongous program," the newspaper noted in a [supporting document](#) filed later in the case. It provides more than 40 million Americans with average monthly food assistance of about \$125, a \$70 billion annual total. SNAP recipients use an official SNAP debit card for purchases.

The taxpayer stake in SNAP is clear. "Under SNAP," the Argus Leader noted, "the money flows from the taxpayer to the government to the eligible SNAP households to the SNAP retailers from whom the food is purchased. The crux of the government program is that the government—with taxpayer dollars—buys groceries for low-income families from stores that wish to do business under the program."

Enter Exemption 4. Responding to the Argus Leader FOIA, the Agriculture Department released names, store type and addresses, but declined to produce the yearly sales figures. The department argued the sales figures were exempt from disclosure because they constituted confidential business information.

The newspaper appealed the decision, the USDA ignored the appeal—typical FOIA behavior from the feds, alas—and the Argus Leader sued.

You can read the sad timeline of the case [here](#). After a district court judge sided with the newspaper's argument that disclosure of the sales figures would not cause substantial competitive harm to retailers, the USDA threw in the towel, agreeing to disclose the numbers.

That's when food industry lobbyists stepped in. The Food Marketing Institute filed an emergency motion with the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals to intervene. An Eighth Circuit panel heard the case and it too ruled in favor of the newspaper.

The wheels of FOIA turn slow. Seven years had passed since the Argus Leader's original FOIA request. You can see the game here: run out the clock, grind down the requester.

But the lawyers were not done. After failing to get the entire Eighth Circuit to take up the matter, FMI filed a [writ of certiorari](#) with the Supreme Court, asking it to review the case.

The High Court accepted the case. It's on the docket for April.

Scotusblog [notes](#) that the Supremes are likely looking to "resolve at least five circuit [court] splits over Exemption 4's "confidentiality" term and whether the "substantial-competitive-harm" claim test is satisfied.

MuckRock [warns](#) that if the lower-court decisions "are overturned, lack of access to this data will continue to hold back public spending accountability and nutrition research around the country—and provide corporations a powerful tool to keep public data proprietary in other cases."

We will keep you informed on this important case.

### **Senate Ethics Committee Gives Sen. Cory Booker a Pass**

Surprise, surprise. The U.S. Senate is protecting one of its most brazenly unethical members.

We announced this week that the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Ethics has [refused](#) to take action against Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ), who admitted to willfully violating Senate rules by releasing confidential records regarding then-Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh's time as a White House counsel. The documents were marked "Committee confidential," meaning they were not for public distribution.

Our September 2018 [complaint](#) to the chairman and co-chairman of the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Ethics called for an investigation after Sen. Booker admitted to violating Senate rules in releasing the confidential material. Ethics Committee Chief Counsel and Staff Director Deborah Sue Mayer responded last week:

The Select Committee on Ethics (the Committee) has reviewed the complaint you filed against Senator Cory A. Booker, dated September 12, 2018. The Committee carefully evaluated the allegations in the complaint and, based on all the information before it, determined that no further action is appropriate. Thank you for your correspondence with the Committee.

Sen. Booker admitted breaking Senate rules when he issued a [tweet](#) on Friday, September 7 saying:

Weds—I broke committee rules by reading from "Committee confidential" docs.

Also, Sen. Booker then posted the following [entry](#) on his Facebook account on Sunday, September 9:

And the classification of many documents as "Committee confidential" is a sham... I willfully violate these sham rules. I fully accept any consequences that might arise from my actions including expulsion.

We noted in our complaint that Sen. Booker also uploaded "Committee confidential" records to a publicly accessible [Dropbox](#) account with the heading "Booker Confidential – Kavanaugh Hearing Documents".

By violating the rules in releasing Committee confidential records, Sen. Booker appeared to have violated provisions 5 and/or 6 of Rule 29 of the Standing Rules of the Senate (Rev. Jan. 24, 2013), which stipulate that he should be subject to expulsion from the Senate:



5. Any Senator, officer or employee of the Senate who shall disclose the secret or confidential business or proceedings of the Senate, including the business and proceedings of the committees, subcommittees and offices of the Senate shall be liable, if a Senator, to suffer expulsion from the body; and if an officer or employee, to dismissal from the service of the Senate, and to punishment for contempt.

6. Whenever, by the request of the Senate or any committee thereof, any documents or papers shall be communicated to the Senate by the President or the head of any department relating to any matter pending in the Senate, the proceedings in regard to which are secret or confidential under the rules, said documents and papers shall be considered as confidential, and shall not be disclosed without leave of the Senate.

(See pp. 48-49: <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CDOC-113sdoc18/pdf/CDOC-113sdoc18.pdf> )

The Senate Ethics Committee is evenly split, with three Republicans and three Democrats. The Committee [members](#) are Johnny Isakson (R-GA), Christopher A. Coons (D-DE), Pat Roberts (R-KS), Brian Schatz (D-HI), James Risch (R-ID), and Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH).

It is an absolute disgrace that the Senate Ethics Committee is giving Senator Booker a pass for willfully violating Senate rules by leaking confidential information to smear Justice Kavanaugh. The Senate continues the abuse of Kavanaugh and his family by refusing to act against a Senator who, pretending to be Spartacus, violated the rule of law and our Constitution in trying to destroy him.

### **U.S. Grants Thousands of Spousal Visas for Underaged Children**

We have an immigration system that is broken not because, as open borders advocate, we need to provide amnesty, but because the immigration system undermines our values and allows individuals to abuse the rule of law. Consider this tragic [report](#) in our *Corruption Chronicles* blog.

While the U.S. government advances policies to prevent child marriage in foreign countries it approves thousands of petitions filed by Americans seeking spouse or fiancé visas for children born abroad. In the last decade more than 8,500 petitions for spousal entry into the U.S. involved minors, according to government figures included in a Senate Homeland Security report ([How the U.S. Immigration System Encourages Child Marriages](#)) released this month. In an overwhelming number of the cases girls were the younger party and in some there were “significant age differences,” Senate investigators found. Two were only 13 years old, 38 were 14 years old, 269 were 15 years old, and 1,768 were 16. The remaining 6,609 were 17 years old, according to the records, which were obtained from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

In a disturbing example, the agency approved a 71-year-old American citizen’s visa request for a 17-year-old spouse from Guatemala. In another, the agency granted a 14-year-old U.S. citizen’s petition for a 48-year-old spouse from Jamaica. USCIS also rubber-stamped 149 applications involving a minor with an adult spouse or fiancé over the age of 40. Nearly 5,000 minors in the United States on spousal or fiancé visas received green cards to become lawful permanent residents, federal figures show. “U.S. law and U.S. Department of State policy aim to prevent and reduce the risks of child marriages occurring around the world, yet major loopholes in U.S. law have allowed thousands of minors to be subjected to child marriages,” the senate report states. “Under the Immigration and Nationality Act (“INA”), a U.S. child may petition for a visa for a spouse or fiancé living in another country, and a U.S. adult may petition for a visa for a minor spouse or fiancé living abroad.”

Two government agencies—USCIS and the State Department—must approve spouse or fiancé visas. The request is initially made to USCIS, which does not require parental or judicial consent for minors. Once the agency approves the application, the State Department usually issues the visa. “The State Department returns or rejects few spousal or fiancé immigrant visa petitions after they are approved by USCIS,” the report states. Senate investigators spoke with a “child marriage victim” who was forced to marry her older cousin during a family vacation to Pakistan. USCIS approved her spousal immigration benefit when she was just 13 years old and throughout the forced marriage, she suffered physical and sexual abuse. “She is just one of the thousands of U.S. women and girls forced into a child marriage involving the U.S. immigration system,” the report says.

Ironically, the U.S. government launched an aggressive global campaign years ago to slash an epidemic of child marriages, rampant in third-world countries. India tops the list for child marriage (15.5 million), according to a global [nonprofit](#) committed to ending it and enabling girls to fulfill their potential. Two Latin American countries—Brazil (3 million) and Mexico (1.4 million)—also appear in the top ten. As part of the U.S. campaign to reduce child marriage abroad, Congress passed a [measure](#) in 2013 requiring the secretary of state to establish and implement a multiyear strategy to “prevent child marriages” and “to promote the empowerment of girls at risk of child marriage in developing countries.” A few years later the State Department launched a [Global Strategy to Empower Adolescent Girls](#) to, among other things, “reduce the risk of child, early, and forced marriage (CEFM).” In its lengthy strategy handbook, the agency revealed that there are nearly 700 million women alive today who were married as children and 15 million more are married each year. The State Department also writes that “forced marriage is a human rights abuse and, in the case of minors, a form of child abuse.” It also creates gender inequality, contributes to economic hardship and leads to “under-investment in girls’ educational and healthcare needs.” Why would the same agency approve thousands of visas for children—mostly girls—to enter forced marriages in the U.S.?

Until next week ...

□

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### OUTRAGEOUS--Senate Ethics Committee Gives Cory Booker a Pass for Willfully Leaking Classified Docs

Judicial Watch announced today that the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Ethics has refused to take action against Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ), who admitted to willfully violating Senate rules by releasing confidential records regarding then-Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh’s time as a White House counsel. The documents were marked “Committee confidential,” meaning they were not for public distribution.

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**From:** Tom Fitton <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 22, 2019 7:18 PM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: Another Clinton Cover-Up

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INSIDE JW

## Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: Another Clinton Cover-Up

### Judicial Watch Sues for Coup Documents

Andrew McCabe, the former deputy director of the FBI, fired after being accused of lying by the DOJ Inspector General, is having his day, boasting of what is effectively a coup attempt against President Trump.

We'd like to know more about that, and we have filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Justice for all records of communications of McCabe, the Office of the Attorney General Jeff Sessions, or the Office of Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein discussing the 25<sup>th</sup> Amendment or presidential fitness.

Additionally, we are seeking all recordings made by any official in the Office of the Attorney General or Deputy Attorney General of meetings in the Executive Office of the President or Vice President.

We sued after the Justice Department failed to respond to three separate FOIA requests dated September 21, 2018 ([Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice](#) (No. 1:19-cv-00388)). Our lawsuit seeks all written and audio/visual records of any FBI/DOJ discussions regarding the 25<sup>th</sup> Amendment and plans to secretly record President Trump in the Oval Office.

On February 14, 2019, McCabe [stated](#) in an interview with CBS that "there were conversations about the possibility of removing Trump under the 25th Amendment and confirming that Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein had offered to wear a wire around the president."

After President Trump fired then-FBI Director James Comey, top DOJ officials [reportedly](#) discussed whether to recruit cabinet members to invoke the 25th Amendment to remove President Trump from office.

President Trump recently [tweeted](#): "The biggest abuse of power and corruption scandal in our history, and it's much worse than we thought. Andrew McCabe (FBI) admitted to plotting a coup (government overthrow) when he was serving in the FBI, before he was fired for lying & leaking."

It was reported in September 2018 that Rosenstein [suggested](#) that he secretly record President Trump in the White House in an effort to invoke the 25<sup>th</sup> Amendment and have President Trump removed. Our immediate follow-up FOIA requests were ignored.

It is no surprise that we are facing an immense cover-up of senior FBI and DOJ leadership discussions to pursue a seditious coup against President Trump. This effort to overthrow President Trump is a fundamental threat to our constitutional republic. For that reason we will do everything we can in the courts to expose this lawlessness.

## Hillary Clinton has Russia Collusion Problem

All of the huffing and puffing about President Trump and Russia these past two years effectively took the spotlight off Hillary Clinton and her foundation's activities. That, I suspect, is the purpose of the Mueller/Comey/Rosenstein/McCabe farce. Our chief investigative reporter, Micah Morrison, [updates](#) us in his latest *Investigative Bulletin*.

Special Counsel Robert Mueller's probe into possible collusion with Russia by the Trump presidential campaign dominates the news, but behind the scenes another bombshell story is coming together piece by piece. Was the Clinton network knee-deep in Russians, and did the FBI shut down an investigation that would have provided answers about Clinton collusion?

Judicial Watch is one of the few organizations in pursuit of the story. We filed [a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit](#) against the Justice Department after it failed to respond to our request for "all communications" related to "the closure or possible closure of an investigation into the Clinton Foundation" in 2016. Last week, in a separate lawsuit, we uncovered [evidence pointing to undisclosed documents](#) related to controversial FBI official Andrew McCabe and potential charges against Mrs. Clinton.

We [sued for records](#) of a meeting between a top FBI official and an attorney for a Clinton-connected law firm related to then-candidate Trump and Russia, a story [first reported](#) by Fox News. And we've taken [a skeptical look](#) at the appointment by then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions of U.S. Attorney John Huber to "evaluate certain issues" rising from the 2016 election.

One of those issues is the [Uranium One controversy](#). Russia's Rosatom atomic energy corporation in 2010 received U.S. permission, including a sign-off from Hillary Clinton's State Department, to buy Uranium One, a Canadian company that owned significant American uranium assets. Was the Russian purchase of Uranium One connected to payments to the Clinton network and improper actions by Secretary of State Clinton?

Judicial Watch is lonely on the story but not alone. The Hill's indefatigable John Solomon a year ago [broke the news](#) that the Clinton Foundation was under FBI investigation. "The Justice Department has launched a new inquiry into whether the Clinton Foundation engaged in any pay-to-play politics or other illegal activities while Hillary Clinton served as secretary of state," Solomon reported.

Earlier this month, Solomon was at it again. Revisiting an episode that has "escaped significant attention," Solomon reports that there is "clear evidence now that shows Hillary Clinton's family and charity profited from Moscow and simultaneously facilitated official government actions benefitting Russia."

The episode centers around the Skolkovo Innovation Center, a high-tech business center launched in Moscow in 2009. Five years later, as Skolkovo entities expanded in the U.S., the FBI issued an [extraordinary public warning](#), saying that the Skolkovo connection "may be a means for the Russian government to access our nation's sensitive or classified research development facilities and dual-use technologies."

Solomon notes that Secretary of State Clinton's "handprint was everywhere" on the Skolkovo project, part of an attempt by the U.S. to reboot Russia relations. Leading the Russian side of the project was oligarch Viktor Vekselberg, a Putin-connected billionaire and Clinton Foundation donor. Firms connected to the oligarch [donated at least \\$75,000](#) to the foundation. As the Skolkovo collaboration got underway, Solomon reminds us, Bill Clinton made his way to Moscow and was paid a jaw-dropping \$500,000 for a speech to a Russian investment bank, Renaissance Capital.

Solomon reports that Bill Clinton sought permission from the State Department to meet with Vekselberg and "Arkady Dvorkovich, a senior official of Rosatom," during the Moscow trip. This was at the time Rostom was "seeking State's permission to buy Uranium One." The Washington Examiner [notes](#) that the Clintons' "relationship to Vekselberg continued throughout Hillary Clinton's time at the State Department."

Solomon adds additional details on possible Clinton collusion with the Russians—[read his full report here](#). And Viktor Vekselberg certainly is a busy man, making a cameo in the Mueller probe and turning up in [various other sketchy endeavors](#). Not everything in the Russia story comes up as collusion, cover-up or crime, but Solomon correctly notes that evidence related to Skolkovo, Rosatom and Uranium One “shows that the Clintons financially benefitted from Russia—personally and inside their charity—at the same time they were involved in U.S. government actions that rewarded Moscow and increased U.S. security risks.”

## DC Mayor Gives Open Borders Group 100,000 Tax Dollars

Your nation’s capital is doing its best to compete with sanctuary states and cities around the country. Our *Corruption Chronicles* blog [reports](#):

Months after spending [\\$900,000](#) to supply immigrants and their families with “targeted services and resources,” the mayor of Washington DC is giving an open borders group \$100,000 to provide English classes, legal consultants and workshops to help them become American citizens. The mayor, Muriel Bowser, proudly [announced](#) this month that the taxpayer allocation “represents the largest such government fund in the nation.” The money will help pay for projects that collaborate with employers to assist immigrant workers with the citizenship process by also hosting seminars, and individual legal consults. “Together, we’re giving more immigrants in our community a fair shot at citizenship,” Mayor Bowser said, bragging about similar programs funded with DC taxpayer dollars. “This grant builds on the work we have done through our Immigrant Justice Legal Services grant program and through the monthly citizenship workshops; it’s an example of how we can work together as a community and use local resources to break down barriers to citizenship.”

Last summer the mayor launched the \$900,000 [Immigrant Justice Legal Services \(IJLS\) Grant Program](#) to provide legal services for illegal aliens at risk of being deported under the Trump administration’s stricter immigration policies. The money goes to leftist groups that provide “know your rights” workshops, legal briefings, trainings, mentorships and legal assistance. The program is the first of its kind in Washington DC. The goal, according to Bowser, is to help illegal aliens “navigate a challenging political climate and thrive in our community.” The mayor claims it has “helped bring our DC values to life and has made us a safer stronger DC” by providing immigrants with the knowledge and resources they need to understand their rights. Under the plan, leftist “community-based organizations” receive grants of up to \$150,000 to help immigrants.

The recent \$100,000 allocation is going to a group called [National Immigration Forum](#) that advocates “lawful permanent residence” for the nation’s estimated 11.4 million illegal immigrants. The nonprofit supports “commonsense immigration, citizenship and integration policies” and helps businesses assist immigrant employees with the citizenship process by focusing on “English language learning” to help immigrants become full participants in the workplace, community and economy. “Statistics show a direct correlation between immigrant integration and happier, more effective workers — which directly impacts business profitability,” National Immigration Forum claims. The group’s executive director, Ali Noorani, says the DC taxpayer dollars will help new Americans reach their full potential. “We are proud to partner with Mayor Bowser on this initiative that’s a win-win for Washington, DC, businesses and employees alike,” Noorani said.

DC has long protected illegal immigrants from federal authorities by offering them sanctuary and banning local law enforcement officers from inquiring about suspects’ immigration status. In 2011 DC’s scandal-plagued mayor, Vincent Gray, signed an [executive order](#) making it official by forbidding police and other city agencies from asking about immigration status. The order also guarantees that local law enforcement officials will not detain illegal aliens, report them to federal agencies or even make them available for federal immigration interviews without a court order. As mayor Gray, who still serves on DC’s council despite being embroiled in a multitude of corruption scandals, also introduced a bill give [illegal immigrants driver’s licenses](#).

A few years ago, DC tried to pass a measure that would allow [non-U.S. citizens to vote](#) in elections. One of the DC councilmen behind the bill, Tommy Wells, said the law was necessary because area residents know all too well what it means to be denied equal voting rights in the United States. “It goes without question that every resident of DC deserves a vote and a voice in our local government,” said Wells, who currently works in the Bowser administration as

## Judicial Watch Stands Up for the Cross in the Supreme Court

Those on a crusade against public displays of religion are clever in discovering imagined offenses and insisting in the courts that their wild theories be given legal protection.

Such is the case in the use of a cross to honor those who gave their lives in war. In a recent such case the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit ruled that government recognition and upkeep of a World War I memorial cross is in violation of the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment of the Constitution.

Well, it's not, and we've filed an [amicus curiae](#) brief in the United States Supreme Court asking the court to reverse the decision ([The American Legion, et al. v. American Humanist Association, et al.](#); [Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission v. American Humanist Association, et al.](#) (Nos. 17-1717, 18-18)). The court will hear arguments on the case next week, on February 27, 2019.

Here's some background. The First Amendment provides: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." These two clauses comprise the "establishment clause" and the "free exercise clause."

We argue that the Supreme Court in this case can "clarify the role of the Establishment Clause in relation to the States and set out an unambiguous legal standard by which Establishment Clause violations can be measured." Additionally, we seek "to highlight the dangerous path this case plays in overt hostility toward religion by the courts."

We argue that, "applying any of the possible Establishment Clause tests brings about the same conclusion: the Memorial is constitutional."

We point out that both the plain meaning of the language and the historical context of the Establishment Clause clearly demonstrate "that the Framers intended the Clause to be a restriction on federal interference with and establishment of religion..."

Our brief details the use of the cross through American history to honor our nation's war dead and notes that "the cross has become synonymous with veteran sacrifice." Our brief presents the Supreme Court with actual photos of such memorial crosses across the country.

The time-honored cross monuments to America's honored dead should especially be defended by courts, both because military sacrifice made possible the guarantee of our constitutional rights and because it is the duty of the courts to honor the Constitution as written by the Framers.

This is an opportunity for the court to protect the free expression of religion against the predations of activist judges who seek to remove religion from the public square.

Until next week ...

□

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton

Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: El Paso Region is 'Freeway' for Drug/Human Trafficking & Terrorism

February 11, 2019- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "Lou Dobbs Tonight" on the Fox Business Network to discuss a 'sophisticated narco-terror network' in El Paso, TX.

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### Tom Fitton: Mueller is Illicitly Targeting & Harassing President Trump—DOJ Must Shut it Down

January 23, 2019- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "Mornings on the Mall" on WMAL to discuss Robert Mueller's office refuting a Buzzfeed story about the ongoing probe into alleged Trump/Russia collusion during the 2016 election.

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**Sent:** Friday, January 11, 2019 7:41 PM EST  
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INSIDE JW

## Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: Benghazi and Clinton Emails Are Back

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### Judicial Watch Moves to Question Top Obama-Clinton Officials About Benghazi and Clinton Emails

The Departments of State and Justice will not investigate themselves we now know, and of course we can't expect any more efforts in the House of Representatives to get to the bottom of Hillary Clinton's fraudulent behavior in high office.

But Judicial Watch and some courts won't be intimidated from asking tough questions.

We have submitted a court-ordered [discovery plan](#) for the depositions of several top former government officials involved in the Clinton email scandal, including Obama administration senior officials Susan Rice, Ben Rhodes, Jacob Sullivan, and FBI official E.W. Priestap.

In it we say that we intend "to update the Court regarding the depositions of Hillary Clinton and Cheryl Mills at the conclusion of the 16-week discovery period, unless the Court believes such notice is not necessary."

The plan for discovery is the latest development in the July 2014 FOIA [lawsuit](#) we filed after the U.S. Department of State failed to respond to our May 13, 2014 FOIA request ([Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of State](#) (No. 1:14-cv-01242)). We were seeking:

- Copies of any updates and/or talking points given to Ambassador Rice by the White House or any federal agency concerning, regarding, or related to the September 11, 2012 attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya.
- Any and all records or communications concerning, regarding, or relating to talking points or updates on the Benghazi attack given to Ambassador Rice by the White House or any federal agency.

This lawsuit, you will recall, [led directly](#) to the disclosure of the Clinton email system in 2015.

Our discovery plan is a response to a December 6, 2018, ruling by Judge Royce C. Lamberth [ordering](#) the State Department and Department of Justice to join us in submitting discovery in three distinct areas:

A. Whether Secretary Clinton's use of a private email server was intended to stymie FOIA; B. Whether the State Department's intent to settle the case in late 2014 and early 2015 amounted to bad faith; C. Whether the State Department has adequately searched for records responsive to our request.

In his [ruling](#), Lamberth called Clinton's use of the private email server "one of the gravest modern offenses to government transparency."

We are seeking the depositions of former U.N. Ambassador Susan Rice and former White House Deputy Strategic

Communications Adviser [Ben Rhodes](#) about the creation and dissemination of the infamous [Benghazi talking points](#) because: “No one other than these individuals know better who they were communicating with and where records might be located.”

We also argue for “direct, unfiltered access to [additional] key witnesses with firsthand knowledge and the opportunity to ask follow-up questions” about the illicit Clinton email system. In its pursuit of answers as to whether former Secretary Clinton’s use of a private email server was intended to stymie FOIA, we want to conduct the following depositions:

- Jacob Sullivan, Senior advisor and Deputy Chief of Staff throughout Secretary Clinton’s tenure.
- Clarence Finney (Deputy Director, Executive Secretariat Staff) “the principal advisor and records management expert in the Office of the Secretary who was responsible for control of all correspondence and records for Clinton and other State Department officials.” Finney is also among the State Department officials in the emails discussing the processing of the [CREW FOIA](#) request and other requests concerning the former Secretary’s email account.
- Jonathon Wasser, who worked for Finney and who actually conducted searches for records in response to FOIA requests ...”
- FBI Assistant Director for Counterintelligence E.W. Priestap, “who supervised the Clinton email investigation.” Priestap has not explained “the nature or extent of the FBI’s efforts, such as who the FBI attempted to contact, who the FBI actually talked to, who the FBI requested records from, who actually provided records, and whether the FBI believes those that they requested records from actually returned all of the requested records.”
- Justin Cooper (employee of President Bill Clinton and the Clinton Foundation). Cooper created and managed the [clintonemail.com](#) server. His testimony to Congress also appears to contradict portions of testimony provided by former Clinton aide Huma Abedin.
- Eric Boswell (Assistant Secretary for Diplomatic Security). On March 6, 2009, Boswell wrote in an [Information Memo](#) to Cheryl Mills that he “cannot stress too strongly ... that any unclassified BlackBerry is highly vulnerable in any setting to remotely and covertly monitoring conversations, retrieving email, and exploiting calendars.” A March 11, 2009 email states that, in a management meeting with the assistant secretaries, Secretary Clinton approached Boswell and mentioned she had read the IM and that she “got it.”
- Heather Samuelson (Senior Advisor & White House Liaison). Until her tenure at the State Department ended in March 2013, Samuelson was tasked with tracking the FOIA request served by CREW. Samuelson subsequently served as one of Secretary Clinton’s personal attorneys and, in 2014, reviewed the clintonemail.com account to identify federal records. The records returned by Clinton in December 2014 were records identified by Samuelson.

We argue that, “as the Court has already recognized, understanding the context of the preparation and dissemination of the [Benghazi] talking points is central” to the Clinton email scandal. For instance, did the State Department know that Clinton “deemed the [Benghazi attack terrorism](#) hours after it happened, contradicting the Obama Administration’s subsequent claim of a protest-gone-awry?” Was the State Department aware that “Clinton sent or received [top-secret information](#) through her private email?”

Incredibly, Justice Department attorneys [admit in a filing](#) opposing our limited discovery that “Counsel for State contacted the counsel of some third parties that Plaintiff originally included in its draft discovery proposal to obtain their client’s position on being deposed.” This collusion occurred despite criticism from the Court that the DOJ engaged in “chicanery” to cover up misconduct and that career employees in the State and Justice Departments may have “colluded to scuttle public scrutiny of Clinton, skirt FOIA, and hoodwink this Court.”

We [countered](#) that “[t]he government’s proposal, which is really nothing more than an opposition to [Judicial Watch’s] plan, demonstrates that it continues to reject any impropriety on its part and that it seeks to block any meaningful inquiry into its ‘outrageous misconduct.’”

President Trump, frankly, should demand to know why his State and Justice Departments are colluding with Clinton allies and trying to protect Hillary Clinton and themselves from court-ordered questions on the Clinton email scandal. But a federal court wants answers – and our discovery plan is a key step to uncovering whether and how Hillary Clinton email misconduct stymied the Freedom of Information Act.

## The Border Crisis is Also a Public Health Crisis

Our southern border tops the news this week. In addition to fighting the invasion, we must contend with the numerous falsehoods in the media, one of which is that the border crisis has no resulting public health impact. It has never been true, as our *Corruption Chronicles* blog makes [clear](#).

Weeks after mainstream media outlets reported that illegal immigrants don't bring disease into the United States, the Border Patrol reveals that it is getting slammed daily with dozens of illegal immigrants carrying "serious illnesses." These include tuberculosis, influenza and pneumonia. In fact, a Guatemalan migrant who died in U.S. custody on Christmas Eve had Influenza B, a virus that causes respiratory infections.

Federal agents are referring 50 illegal immigrants a day for urgent medical care, according to figures obtained by Washington D.C.'s [conservative newspaper](#). Authorities say "it's unlike anything they've ever seen before." Many of the migrants have tuberculosis, parasites or the flu, the feds confirm. There are also lots of pregnant women about to give birth. The article quotes Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Commissioner Kevin McAleenan saying that most of the illegal immigrants were sick when they arrived at the U.S. border. "Many were ill before they departed their homes," McAleenan said. "We're talking about cases of pneumonia, tuberculosis, parasites. These are not things that developed urgently in a matter of days."

A separate [story](#) published by a mainstream newspaper on New Year's Eve discloses that in the last few weeks of 2018 more than 450 illegal immigrants required medical attention for illnesses. More than half were children. In the piece CBP Commissioner McAleenan refers to the situation as a "crisis." Here's an excerpt from the article: "The ill migrants have been arriving with all kinds of ailments, many with flu or pneumonia that can be particularly pervasive and dangerous this time of year." It proceeds to reveal that 17 illegal immigrants have been hospitalized and that the Coast Guard has been deployed to help, sending medical teams to Border Patrol sectors getting bombarded with sick migrants. They include Yuma and Tucson, Arizona as well as the Rio Grande Valley.

It's unbelievable that a "news" narrative can change so quickly in just a few weeks. Right before Christmas the mainstream media proclaimed illegal immigrants don't bring disease into the United States. In various articles reporters took it a step further by claiming that migrants actually help fight disease. One [story](#), published by NBC news and reiterated by various other outlets, focused on a study commissioned by a medical journal. One of the researchers received lots of print for declaring that migrants spreading disease is a "false argument" used to keep them out. The editor of the medical journal that conducted the study was quoted saying this: "In too many countries, the issue of migration is used to divide societies and advance a populist agenda." The biased coverage marked a great example of the mainstream media [distorting information](#) to promote a liberal agenda.

Judicial Watch has interviewed medical experts that confirm illegal immigrants do indeed pose a serious public health threat to the U.S. by bringing dangerous diseases into the country. This includes tuberculosis, dengue and Chikungunya. After returning from covering the Central American caravan along the Guatemala-Honduras border, Judicial Watch spoke with a prominent physician in a border state who [warned](#) that the migrants will undoubtedly bring infectious diseases into the U.S. Among them are extremely drug resistant strands of tuberculosis and mosquito-borne diseases such as dengue and chikungunya that are widespread in the region.

The same week Judicial Watch published the story about the caravan health threat a major newspaper [reported](#) on the health crisis created by the influx of Venezuelans fleeing to neighboring countries. The migrants are spreading malaria, yellow fever, diphtheria, dengue, tuberculosis and AIDS throughout South America. Many of the diseases had been considered eradicated in the neighboring Latin American countries, according to government officials cited in the article, which states that "contagion from Venezuela's economic meltdown is starting to spread to neighboring countries—not financially, but literally, in the form of potentially deadly diseases carried among millions of refugees." As an example, the story reveals that "measles reappeared with a vengeance" in a Brazilian city near the Venezuelan border that had declared the highly contagious airborne disease "vanquished" nearly two decades ago. "Measles is already spreading beyond the Brazilian Amazon to other Brazilian states, as well as Colombia, Peru and as far south as Argentina, according to recent Pan American Health Organization reports," the article states. "Other diseases racing through communities in Venezuela are now crossing borders and raising concerns among health authorities as

far away as the U.S.”

Years ago, when Barack Obama let tens of thousands of illegal immigrant minors into the country, health experts warned about the serious hazards to the American public. Most of the Unaccompanied Alien Children (UAC) came from Central America, like the current caravan, and they crossed into the U.S. through Mexico, in the same way that the caravan expects to. Swine flu, dengue fever and Ebola were among the diseases that the hordes of UACs brought with them, according to lawmakers and medical experts interviewed by Judicial Watch during the influx. At the time, a U.S. Congressman, who is also a medical doctor, [told Judicial Watch](#) about the danger to the American public as well as the Border Patrol agents forced to care for the UACs. The former lawmaker, Phil Gingrey, referred to it as a “severe and dangerous” crisis because the Central American youths were importing infectious diseases considered to be largely eradicated in this country. Many migrants lack basic vaccinations such as those to prevent chicken pox or measles, leaving America’s young children and the elderly particularly susceptible, Gingrey pointed out then. To handle the escalating health crisis the CDC activated an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) that largely operated in secrecy.

In his address to the nation President Trump called the situation at the border a humanitarian crisis. He is surely right.

### **Big Apple Corruption: the Mayor, the Rat, & the NYPD**

Judicial Watch’s Micah Morrison, our senior investigative journalist, has a major report available on our *Investigative Bulletin* on the corruption plaguing the highest level of New York City corruption:

The Christmas season in New York City truly is a wonderful time. Everyone seems caught up in the spirit of giving, even the crooks. This year, Christmas brought a special gift: the denouement of the long-running saga of the mayor, the rat, and the NYPD. Once, in an only-in-New-York moment, the rat and a key co-conspirator, both Orthodox Jews, [dressed as Santa’s elves](#) and delivered pricey gifts to police officials at the center of a corruption scheme. Then there was the time they flew an NYPD deputy inspector and a detective to Vegas in a private jet with a hooker for Super Bowl weekend. And the time the rat shoved [\\$60,000 in a Ferragamo handbag](#) to pay off a union boss. They showered cash on public officials. They bought their police friends jewelry, cigars, and meals at pricey restaurants. They paid for trips to Rome and Israel and the Dominican Republic.

In return, the NYPD did favors for the rat, [Jona Rechnitz](#), and co-conspirator [Jeremy Reichberg](#). In a midtown office, the *New York Times* [reported](#), Rechnitz and Reichberg met with “people seeking help with police matters.” The men would later “split the profits” after the problems were resolved. Tickets were fixed, jury duty was avoided, problems with business rivals and city officials went away. Reichberg got a license to carry a gun. Rechnitz was provided with high-speed police escorts to the airport. Police closed a lane in the Lincoln Tunnel to whisk a Rechnitz business associate into Manhattan.

Cash was bestowed on Bill de Blasio’s political campaigns—a lot of it. “Love you brother,” [wrote](#) de Blasio in an email to Rechnitz the day after his 2014 inauguration as mayor. And why not? Rechnitz himself had been showing de Blasio a lot of love, bundling more than \$41,000 for the mayor’s campaign. And there was a lot more to come. The New York Post reports that Rechnitz and his allies raised upward of \$250,000 for entities linked to de Blasio.

Last week, Reichberg was [convicted](#) in federal court on four corruption charges. His former friend, Jona Rechnitz, testified against him. Rechnitz had begun cooperating with federal authorities in April 2016, after being implicated in a \$12 million Ponzi scheme. In August, Rechnitz’s testimony sent another former friend, union boss Norman Seabrook, to prison for bribery and conspiracy.

It’s a mock epic of petty vanities and temptations and the erosion of values, of greed and corruption and the flouting of many laws by many people in positions of power. Alan Feuer [tracked the sprawling saga](#) for the *New York Times* in April, detailing a “Dickensian cast of characters” connected in an “intersecting web of venality and vice.” Bill de Blasio shows up frequently but was charged with no wrongdoing. Lucky him.

Reichberg’s co-defendant, former NYPD Deputy Inspector James Grant, was acquitted on all charges. In Grant’s

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case, prosecutors apparently failed to meet the public corruption standard set by the Supreme Court's 2016 [McDonnell decision](#). *McDonnell* narrowed the legal definition of public corruption, mandating that prosecutors must show a clear quid-pro-quo "official act" benefiting a crooked scheme. Actions such as "setting up a meeting, talking to another official, or organizing an event" are not enough, the court ruled. "To qualify as an 'official act,' the public official must make a decision or take an action on that question or matter, or agree to do so."

Mayor de Blasio has spent the last two years running away from Reichberg and Rechnitz. In March 2017, city and federal prosecutors [announced](#) they would not bring charges against de Blasio for his fundraising practices, some which involved the crooked duo. But Manhattan District Attorney Cy Vance criticized the de Blasio effort as a violation of the "intent and spirit" of state campaign finance laws.

Last month, the Post [revealed](#) that it had located more than twenty undisclosed emails between Rechnitz and the mayor. The de Blasio administration had failed to produce the emails in response to the Post's request under New York's Freedom of Information Law. A de Blasio spokesman told the Post that the emails—some of which surfaced in redacted versions during the recent corruption trial—"weren't discovered in the search during the FOIL process."

How convenient.

The new emails show that de Blasio "had a much cozier relationship with Jona Rechnitz than he has admitted," the Post reported.

"Always stay in touch," de Blasio emailed Rechnitz.

"Call upon me anytime I can help," says another.

Rechnitz is a "brother," a "mensch," a "friend."

Sadly, the bromance did not last. By April 2016, as Rechnitz began cooperating with federal authorities, de Blasio started to distance himself from his friend. It turns out they were "not particularly close" after all, de Blasio said.

By October of last year, de Blasio was blasting Rechnitz as "a liar and a felon."

The mayor and the police commissioner continue to run away from the story. But for the NYPD, it's an important case. Read Feuer's [comprehensive report](#) for the galaxy of senior cops drawn into the scandal.

But the case calls to mind the Knapp Commission's [famous distinction](#) between "grass eaters" and "meat eaters" in police corruption. Most of the improper behavior in the case was of the grass-eating, petty corruption variety—favors done, tickets fixed, etc.—rather than major league, meat-eating felonies committed for financial gain. Maybe that's why most of the cops involved were allowed to escape with "only" disgrace, demotion and early retirement. But corruption is a slippery slope and God knows what this crew would have done next, had they not been exposed by good police work.

The money was bigger for politicians involved in the scandal. Bill de Blasio took a beating in the press but avoided prosecution. Union head Norman Seabrook [was not so lucky](#). The slippery slope applies to public figures too, of course. Small crimes embolden bigger ones. What can you get away with? In New York, defying freedom of information laws has become routine. And around the country, *McDonnell* has made prosecuting public corruption more difficult, raising the bar on honest services fraud.

Micah and the rest of the Judicial Watch team will continue to keep a close eye on New York corruption.

Until next week ...

□

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### The Benghazi & Clinton Email Scandals are BACK--JW Submits Discovery Plan to Gather Evidence

Judicial Watch announced today that it submitted a court-ordered discovery plan for the depositions of several top former government officials involved in the Clinton email scandal, including Obama administration senior officials Susan Rice, Ben Rhodes, Jacob Sullivan, and FBI official E.W. Priestap.

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**From:** Tom Fitton <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 7:22 PM EST  
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INSIDE JW

## Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: BIG Court Victory on Clinton Emails and Benghazi

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### Court Orders Discovery to Begin on Clinton Email/Benghazi Scandals

Last week, I reported to you that we had submitted a court-ordered [discovery plan](#) for the depositions of several top former government officials involved in the Clinton email scandal, including Obama administration senior officials Susan Rice, Ben Rhodes, Jacob Sullivan, and FBI official E.W. Priestap.

This week I am pleased to tell you that U.S. District Judge Royce C. Lamberth has [ruled](#) that discovery can begin. We will now depose Obama administration senior State Department officials, lawyers, and Clinton aides *under oath*.

Senior officials — including Susan Rice, Ben Rhodes, Jacob Sullivan, and FBI official E.W. Priestap — will now have to answer our written questions. The court rejected the DOJ and State Department's objections to our [discovery plan](#). (The court, in ordering a discovery plan last month, [ruled](#) that the Clinton email system was "one of the gravest modern offenses to government transparency.")

We will seek answers to:

- Whether Clinton intentionally attempted to evade the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) by using a non-government email system;
- whether the State Department's efforts to settle this case beginning in late 2014 amounted to bad faith; and
- whether the State Department adequately searched for records responsive to Judicial Watch's FOIA request.

The court will hold a post-discovery hearing to determine if we may also depose additional witnesses, including Clinton and her former Chief of Staff Cheryl Mills.

Rice and Rhodes will answer interrogatories under oath regarding the Benghazi scandal. Rejecting the State and Justice Department's objections to discovery on the infamous [Benghazi talking points](#), Judge Lamberth reiterated:

Yet Rice's talking points and State's understanding of the attack play an unavoidably central role in this case: information about the points' development and content, as well as their discussion and dissemination before and after Rice's appearances could reveal unsearched, relevant records; State's role in the points' content and development could shed light on Clinton's motives for shielding her emails from FOIA requesters or on State's reluctance to search her emails.

We may also serve interrogatories on Monica Hanley, a former staff member in the State Department's Office of the Secretary, and on Lauren Jiloty, Clinton's former special assistant.

According to Lamberth's order, regarding whether Clinton's private email use while Secretary of State was an intentional attempt to evade FOIA, we may depose:

1. Eric Boswell, the former Assistant Secretary for Diplomatic Security... Boswell's March 2009 memo to Mills ... discusses security risks Clinton's Blackberry use posed more generally. And Boswell personally discussed the memo with Clinton. So, he plainly has relevant information about that conversation and about his general knowledge of Clinton's email use. Judicial Watch may depose Boswell.
2. Justin Cooper, the Clinton Foundation employee who created the clintonemail.com server. In its proposal, Judicial Watch noted Cooper's prior congressional testimony "appears to contradict portions of the testimony provided by Huma Abedin in the case before Judge Sullivan." ... Cooper repeatedly told Congress that Abedin helped set-up the Clintons' private server, e.g., Examining Preservation of State Department Federal Records: [before a Congressional hearing] Abedin testified under oath she did not know about the server until six years later.... Judicial Watch may depose Cooper.
3. Clarence Finney, the former deputy director of State's Executive Secretariat staff... [T]his case's questions hinge on what specific State employees knew and when they knew it. As the principal advisor and records management expert responsible for controlling Clinton's official correspondence and records, Finney's knowledge is particularly relevant. And especially given the concerns about government misconduct that prompted this discovery, Judicial Watch's ability to take his direct testimony and ask follow-up questions is critical.

\*\*\*

Judicial Watch seeks to go beyond cursory, second-hand testimony and directly ask Finney what he knew about Clinton's email use. This includes asking about emails suggesting he knew about her private email use in 2014, and emails he received concerning a December 2012 FOIA request from Citizens for Responsible Ethics in Washington (CREW) regarding senior officials' personal email use-topics State's 30(b)(6) deposition in Judge Sullivan's case never addressed. Judicial Watch may depose Finney.

4. Heather Samuelson, the former State Department senior advisor who helped facilitate State's receipt of Hillary Clinton's emails... [T]his case turns on what specific government employees knew and when they knew it. Judicial Watch must be able to take their direct testimony and ask them follow-up questions. Judicial Watch may depose Samuelson.
5. Jacob Sullivan, Secretary Clinton's former senior advisor and deputy Chief of Staff. The government does not oppose Sullivan's deposition.

Regarding whether the State Department's settlement attempts that began in late 2014 amounted to "bad faith," we were granted depositions from the State Department under Rule 30(b)(6); Finney; John Hackett, the former deputy director of State's Office of Information Programs & Services; Gene Smilansky, an attorney-advisor within State's Office of the Legal Advisor; Samuelson; and others.

We were also granted [interrogatories](#) on whether the State Department adequately searched for responsive records, as well as several [document requests](#).

This is a major victory for accountability, and you no doubt recognize the significance of Judge Lamberth's authorizing us to take discovery on whether the Clinton email system evaded FOIA and whether the Benghazi scandal was one reason for keeping Mrs. Clinton's email secret.

The court-ordered discovery is the latest development in our July 2014 FOIA [lawsuit](#) filed after the U.S. Department of State failed to respond to a May 13, 2014 FOIA request ([Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of State](#) (No. 1:14-cv-01242)). Judicial Watch seeks:

- Copies of any updates and/or talking points given to Ambassador Rice by the White House or any federal agency concerning, regarding, or related to the September 11, 2012 attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya.
- Any and all records or communications concerning, regarding, or relating to talking points or updates on the Benghazi attack given to Ambassador Rice by the White House or any federal agency.

Our discovery plan was in response to a December 6, 2018, [ruling](#) by Judge Lamberth.

Incredibly, Justice Department attorneys [admit in a filing](#) opposing our limited discovery that, “Counsel for State contacted the counsel of some third parties that Plaintiff originally included in its draft discovery proposal to obtain their client’s position on being deposed.” This collusion occurred despite criticism from the Court that the DOJ engaged in “chicanery” to cover up misconduct and that career employees in the State and Justice Departments may have “colluded to scuttle public scrutiny of Clinton, skirt FOIA, and hoodwink this Court.”

We [countered](#) that “[t]he government’s proposal, which is really nothing more than an opposition to [Judicial Watch’s] plan, demonstrates that it continues to reject any impropriety on its part and that it seeks to block any meaningful inquiry into its ‘outrageous misconduct.’”

Keep in mind that our FOIA lawsuit [led directly](#) to the disclosure of the Clinton email system in 2015. Had we not been pursuing the truth, who knows if it would have ever come to light.

I talked about this major development with told Harris Faulkner at [Fox News](#) earlier this week. In the meantime, I’ll be sure to keep you updated as appropriate as discovery proceeds.

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## Documents Detail Nancy Pelosi’s CODEL Travel in 2015

We know something about Congressional junkets, because we’ve been documenting the questionable travel of both presidents and congressmen for years. With Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s latest CODEL cancellation by President Trump on [the front pages](#), we can offer some interesting context.

Just today, we released [documents](#) obtained through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the Air Force detailing [\\$134,587.81](#) plus [\\$50,000](#) for an advance of funds for an “escort officer” for a total of \$184,587.81 for then-House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi’s (D-CA) Congressional delegation (CODEL) to [Italy and Ukraine](#) in 2015.

We filed a December 2015 FOIA [lawsuit](#) after the Air Force failed to respond to an August 2015 request ([Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Defense](#) (No 1:15-cv-02236)) for:

- All records regarding mission taskings of flights escorting members of Congress
- All records concerning transportation costs for transporting members of Congress
- All passenger manifests (DD-2131) for transporting members of Congress
- All weekly travel reports for members of Congress

The documents show that from July 30 to August 6, Pelosi took a trip to Milan, Rome and Naples, Italy, and Kiev, Ukraine, for herself, [her husband](#), several members of congress and their spouses. The Italy trip included Milan, Rome and Naples [with visits](#) to the Vatican Museum, Sistine Chapel, Duomo and viewing Da Vinci’s “Last Supper.”

The documents also show the Air Force’s negative response to a Pelosi staff request for a [specific crew](#) for Pelosi’s flight. An official notes that it: “would be a disastrous precedent to set even if it were possible.” The Air Force further points out: “Our ARC crews have plenty to balance already with military duties and their civilian employers.”

The documents also detail a [CODEL](#) trip for Senator Cory Gardner (R-CO), who traveled commercial flights [to Asia](#), including Tokyo and Okinawa, Japan; Seoul, Korea; plus Beijing and Hong Kong, China. This trip, with flights and per diems, cost at least [\\$26,009.03](#).

We [previously uncovered](#) that Pelosi’s military travel cost the United States Air Force \$2,100,744.59 over one two-year period — \$101,429.14 of which was for in-flight expenses, including food and alcohol.

Our work exposing Pelosi’s travel abuses resulted in her successor John Boehner [declining](#) to use Air Force luxury jets to travel to his Ohio congressional district.

The record shows Nancy Pelosi abusing the perks of office that give her access to military luxury travel paid for by taxpayers.

### **U.S. Doles Out Millions to Costa Rica, Mozambique During Shutdown**

You suspect our government is dysfunctional, and you hardly need more proof. But here it is from our [Corruption Chronicles](#) blog.

The U.S. government may be shut down but it's still doling out large sums of taxpayer dollars to foreign causes that American citizens may not consider a priority. In the last few days alone, Uncle Sam dedicated millions of dollars in grants to projects that include helping socially vulnerable youth in crime-ridden Costa Rican communities, tackling an AIDS epidemic in Mozambique, improving health in Nigeria and shriveling "important diseases in Senegal." There are plenty more with details posted this month on the government's [grant website](#) which says that, during a lapse in federal appropriations, the system will "remain in an operational status."

Just yesterday, hundreds of thousands of dollars were allocated to the Costa Rican youth project and the Mozambique AIDS program. The U.S. feels obligated to help Costa Rican youths tempted to quit school and join a crime gang, according to the [grant announcement](#). "In vulnerable communities, poverty and lack of opportunities are factors that make young people quit school and start working or join a crime gang," it reads. "Efforts from local governments have been concentrated in getting these demographic opportunities to finish high school and get a job. This is key to reduce crime and youth involvement in the narcotraffic chain." The document offers a history of the Central American nation's sustained increase in violent crime, mainly associated with drug trafficking. This includes a surge in homicides and the use of illicit drugs. To save the vulnerable youth, American taxpayers will spend \$150,000 on an experimental, one-year program. "National and international data show that many Costa Rican communities are in significant need of assistance as they continue to experience a myriad of serious drug problems," the grant announcement says.

The government also [announced](#) yesterday that it is dedicating \$274,676 to counter a growing epidemic of HIV and AIDS in Mozambique, where around 13% of the population is infected with the sexually transmitted disease. The magnitude of the AIDS epidemic and the African country's "health infrastructure" limitations call for the U.S. to step in, according to the grant document. The money will support a national HIV response plan that may reduce new infections and care for those already infected. Nearly 2 million Mozambicans have HIV, according to government figures included in the announcement, which also reveals that women are infected at a higher rate (15%) than men (10%). "Key factors driving the epidemic include multiple sexual partners, high levels of mobility and migration, cross-generational sex, transactional sex, low perception of risk, gender inequality and sexual violence, limited condom use, and limited treatment coverage," it reads.

A whopping [\\$5 million](#) is going to programs that strengthen public health in Nigeria, the U.S. government confirmed this month. The money will fund epidemiological studies and laboratory-based projects and surveillance of "important diseases" in the African nation nearly 6,000 miles across the Atlantic. This includes but is not limited to acute febrile illness, emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, zoonotic and vector borne diseases as well as environmental health issues, biosafety and security and other public health threats. "Research projects should outline clear plans to incorporate the results of research activities into operational disease detection, prevention, and response or control programs in Nigeria and ensure the strengthening of local workforce capacity and dissemination of findings across the region, with partners, and globally," the U.S. grant document says. "Other areas for research include activities to antimicrobial resistance and hospital acquired infections, respiratory infections and influenza, enteric illnesses, and other public health threats.

The Senegal health project will receive [\\$1 million](#), according to a grant announcement posted this month, for a similar program involving diseases in the African nation. These public health research projects may include but are not limited to activities to address acute febrile illness, antimicrobial resistance and hospital acquired infections, respiratory infections and influenza, enteric illnesses, and other public health threats," the document reads. As in Nigeria, the U.S.-funded project will also focus on emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, zoonotic and vector borne diseases; environmental health issues effecting infectious diseases (such as water and air); vaccine-preventable diseases; biosafety and security; public health threats of local importance, and implementation research to evaluate the impact of public health programs and interventions and their cost effectiveness. These are just a few of many examples illustrating how government is handing out cash for questionable causes during the so-called shutdown.

## The Murder Epidemic in Indian Country

Here's a scandal that ought to be stamped out forthwith – the crime crisis on American Indian reservations. We can ask if law enforcement is really paying attention, but we can also wonder why the Congress had a chance to act but didn't.

Micah Morrison, our chief investigative reporter, has [the story](#) in his *Investigative Bulletin*.

On August 19, 2017, 22-year-old Savanna LaFontaine-Graywind disappeared in Fargo, North Dakota. The upstairs neighbor immediately was a suspect: she had been acting strangely and texted LaFontaine-Graywind earlier that day. Savanna was eight months pregnant, with swollen feet. Her car was in the parking lot, her wallet was at home: wherever she went, she wasn't planning to go far.

Eight days later, her body was found in the Red River. Her baby had been cut from her womb.

Two months earlier, Ashley HeavyRunner Loring vanished from the Blackfeet Indian Reservation in Montana. A witness later reported seeing Ashley running from a vehicle on Highway 89.

The two cases are part of storm of domestic abuse and murder hitting Native American and Alaska Native women.

Statistical surveys are thin, but the numbers out there indicate that Native American women are [murdered at a rate 10 times the national average](#).

In Montana alone, more than twenty-four Native Americans—most of them women—went missing in 2018, Senator John Tester said at a Senate Indian Affairs hearing last month. “We have an epidemic on our hands.”

The law enforcement response often is tepid.

“Law enforcement did not take Ashley’s case seriously, as well as other girls that have gone missing and been murdered in Indian country,” Ashley’s sister, Kimberly Loring, told Congress.

Days after Savanna’s disappearance in Fargo, a deputy sheriff told a local news outlet that there was “nothing to suggest criminal activity.”

“Where’s the problem? Is it with [the Bureau of Indian Affairs], is it with the FBI, is it with tribal law enforcement?” Tester said at the December hearing. “Why are we not finding these people? We would have a different reaction if this was a non-native.”

Tester, a Montana Democrat, and his Republican counterpart Steve Daines, are pressing Congress to come up with a solution. “[Savanna’s Act](#)” would create standardized procedures for responding to cases of missing and murdered Native American and Alaska Native women and sharpen cooperation between federal, state, tribal and local law enforcement. Inter-agency cooperation is often a big problem. The act would also upgrade Justice Department intake of information related to crimes against Native Americans and Alaska Natives. The bill unanimously passed the Senate last year but stalled in the House. Alaska Senator Lisa Murkowski has [vowed](#) to reintroduce it.

That’s too late for Savanna LaFontaine-Graywind. The depraved upstairs neighbor [murdered her](#) and took her baby. And it’s probably too late for Ashley HeavyRunner Loring. Her family searched the remote countryside in the heat, the cold, the rain and snow more than 120 times and came up empty. Last month, human remains [were found](#) on the Blackfeet Reservation. They have been sent to the FBI laboratory for analysis.

The discovery came one day after Ashley’s sister testified to Congress. “We are going missing,” Kimberly Loring said. “We are being murdered. We are not being taken seriously.”

There is just no reason to let this continue. Perhaps the well-to-do elites crying “Me, too!” could look into it.

## Now We’re Providing Sex-Change Surgery to Convicted Child Sex Abusers

You would be entitled to believe that our country is drowning in a moral and legal maelstrom when you read this [story](#) in our *Corruption Chronicles* blog.

A Clinton-appointed federal judge has ordered taxpayers in Idaho to provide a transgender inmate convicted of sexually abusing a child with “medically necessary gender confirmation” surgery. In his [ruling](#) Judge B. Lynn Winmill writes that the Idaho Department of Correction’s (IDOC) refusal to fund the pedophile’s sex-change surgery puts him at risk of irreparable harm. “For more than forty years, the Supreme Court has consistently held that consciously ignoring a prisoner’s serious medical needs amounts to cruel and unusual punishment in violation of the Eighth Amendment,” Judge Winmill writes in the order.

The prisoner, 31-year-old Adree Edmo, has been incarcerated in the men’s prison since being sentenced for [sexual abuse of a child under the age of 16](#) in 2012. Before going to jail Edmo claims he lived as a woman, wore makeup and dressed in women’s clothes. He has also held two jobs while in prison and has presented as feminine at his places of employment, according to the court document. A psychiatrist eventually diagnosed Edmo with “gender dysphoria” and for years he has pushed to get a sex change at taxpayer expense, asserting that he feels depressed, embarrassed and disgusted with his male genitalia. IDOC officials repeatedly refused and Edmo’s pro bono attorneys sued the agency as well as its medical contractor, Corizon. Edmo will be the first prisoner in Idaho to receive the costly operation and the second in the country. Judge Winmill found that Edmo has a serious medical need that could result in unnecessary infliction of pain and injury if not treated.

“Gender dysphoria is a medical condition experienced by transgender individuals in which the incongruity between their assigned gender and their actual gender identity is so severe that it impairs the individual’s ability to function,” the court order reads. “The treatment for gender dysphoria depends upon the severity of the condition. Many transgender individuals are comfortable living with their gender identity, role, and expression without surgery. For others, however, gender confirmation surgery, also known as gender or sex reassignment surgery (“SRS”), is the only effective treatment.” The judge blasted prison officials for ignoring Edmo’s request, writing that “in refusing to provide surgery, IDOC and Corizon have ignored generally accepted medical standards for the treatment of gender dysphoria.”

The judge, appointed to the bench in 1995, found that the convict met important criteria for sex-change surgery, including a marked incongruence between one’s experienced/expressed gender and assigned gender, a strong desire to be rid of one’s primary and/or secondary sex characteristics because of a marked incongruence with one’s experienced/express gender and a strong desire for the primary and/or secondary sex characteristics of the other gender. The judge also writes that Edmo met two other crucial benchmarks; a strong desire to be treated as the other gender and a strong conviction that one has the typical feelings and reactions of the other gender.

To support his ruling, Judge Winmill also cites healthcare standards set by the World Professional Association of Transgender Health (WPATH), a nonprofit devoted to transgender health issues. The court order states that WPATH’s standards of care for gender dysphoria include changes in gender expression, hormone therapy to feminize or masculinize the body and surgical changes of the primary or secondary sex characteristics. They also include hair removal through electrolysis, laser treatment or waxing, breast binding or padding, genital tucking or penile prostheses, padding of hips or buttocks and changes in name and gender marker on identity documents. The ruling dedicates more than four pages to WPATH and its extensive list of transgender healthcare standards. Idaho officials have six months to provide the child sex offender with the surgery, which reportedly costs around [\\$100,000](#).

Until next week ...

□

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton

###

Article-Image

## Tom Fitton: Steele was Working for the Clinton Camp to Target President Trump

August 10, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Hannity” on the Fox News Channel to discuss Judicial Watch lawsuits for DOJ for access to communications between Bruce Ohr, Christopher Steele and Fusion GPS.

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## Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: Congress Abuses President Trump

□

### Cohen's Testimony against Trump Was Plainly Unethical

If you watched the Democrat's little circus this week in front of the House Oversight Committee, you may have been alternately angered and amused. The Cohen hearing was an echo of the Kavanaugh hearings. It was a blatant misuse of that hallowed room in the Capitol. Here's what I wrote for [Fox News](#):

Congress and the corrupt Washington Establishment set a new low for abuse of power Wednesday with the [testimony of Michael Cohen](#) before the House Oversight and Reform Committee.

As President Trump's [former personal lawyer, Cohen](#) can't ethically testify to Congress about his interactions with Trump. Cohen knows this. Congress knows this. Special Counsel Robert Mueller knows this.

That the committee hearing took place anyway shows the lawless depth to the partisan Deep State abuse targeting President Trump.

Shameful.

Cohen's testimony is not credible. He has a demonstrated record of not only lying to Congress, but of violating his ethical duties as a lawyer.

Cohen's testimony did more than abuse Trump's rights. Congress benefitted from this abuse and arguably obtained confidential documents belonging to President Trump in violation of its own rules, the president's rights and the law.

Sure enough, the Democratic-controlled hearing was set up through Clinton, Inc., consigliere Lanny Davis, who is representing Cohen for free.

Judicial Watch uncovered Hillary Clinton emails showing Davis to be her biggest fan.

For example, on October 20, 2010, lawyer Davis wrote Hillary Clinton an email saying: "Thank you H for who you are and what you do," followed in the exchange by another with "PS. I swear you look younger and better every time I see you, Good night dear Hillary. Lanny."

So as we witness Cohen – with encouragement from Democrats – trampling over the rights of President Trump, remember this abuse would never have happened without the involvement of Team Clinton.

to target Donald Trump during the presidential campaign.

This led to illicit spying on Trump and his team, an attempted coup by pro-Clinton Deep Staters, and the related appointment of a special counsel to try the further the aim of overthrowing President Trump.

And now the coup effort continues through hearings featuring Cohen this week set up in collusion with Hillary Clinton's closest associates.

Why would Democrats, who cheered for Cohen to be indicted just a few months ago, now give him a platform to speak to the nation?

The answer is simple: They're still not over Hillary Clinton losing the 2016 election to Donald Trump.

Michael Cohen is a criminal and Michael Cohen is a political prop. Michael Cohen is the furthest thing from a victim.

At the hearing Wednesday we witnessed history. Unfortunately for the reputation of the House, it is the type of history that will live in infamy.

We have a federal Freedom of Information Act [lawsuit](#) pending for Michael Cohen's alleged influence peddling and fraud related to his attempts to cash in on his relationship with President Trump. Also, we recently sent [an official complaint](#) to the Justice Department's Office of Inspector General (IG) calling for investigations into leaks of information about Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation. The complaint asks for an investigation of leaks to *BuzzFeed* suggesting that President Trump directed Michael Cohen to lie to Congress.

Neither the abuses of power in an effort to end the Trump presidency, nor Judicial Watch's relentless legal efforts to expose these abuses to the light of day will end soon.

□

### **Illegal Aliens Arrested in Workplace Raid Sue Over 'Rights'**

It's hard for people who obey and respect the law to keep their heads from exploding in the face of affronts to common sense and the rule of law. Our *Corruption Chronicles* blog [explains](#) the latest abuse of our system:

Represented by an extremist nonprofit that lists conservative organizations on a catalogue of "hate groups," seven illegal immigrants detained in a workplace raid are suing the federal agents that arrested them, claiming that they were racially profiled for being Latino. In a federal court [complaint](#) filed this week by their pro bono attorneys at the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), the illegal aliens assert that Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents violated their Constitutional rights against illegal seizures and to equal protection under the Fourth and Fifth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

The raid occurred last spring at a slaughterhouse and meatpacking plant in a small rural town called Bean Station in east Tennessee. Agents from ICE and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) raided the facility as part of a lengthy investigation into the owner's multi-million-dollar tax evasion and fraud scheme. About 100 illegal aliens were arrested, most of them from Guatemala and Mexico and some had been previously deported from the U.S. more than once. At least 54 people were deported immediately, some were released and others faced federal or state charges, according to a local [news report](#) following the seize.

The owner of the business, James Brantley, eventually pled guilty to multiple federal crimes, including [tax fraud, wire fraud, and employment of unauthorized illegal aliens](#). The feds say he avoided paying nearly \$1.3 million in taxes by hiring at least 150 illegal aliens and paying them off the books in cash. The scheme began in 1988 and continued through 2018 when he got busted. Brantley had reported to the IRS that he had only 44 wage-earning employees, according to the Department of Justice (DOJ). To avoid Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) tax obligations,

unemployment insurance premiums, unemployment tax and workers' compensation insurance premiums he paid illegal immigrants in cash at a rate of \$8-\$10 per hour.

The feds said it was a criminal investigation from day one, not simply an immigration enforcement action as many open borders activists alleged. "Tax fraud is an outrage to hard-working Americans directly harmed when criminals cheat their obligation to society by failing to pay their fair share, and the employment of illegal workers also poses a serious threat to public safety as the use of fraudulent identity documents exposes Americans to potential identity theft and other financial harm," said the special agent from ICE Homeland Security Investigations who led the probe.

Leftist groups went ballistic, asserting that illegal immigrants were victims whose "rights" were violated by the federal government. Outraged, the SPLC called it the [largest workplace immigration raid since the George W. Bush administration](#). "What happened on April 5, 2018 was law enforcement overreach, plain and simple," [said](#) the group's senior supervising attorney Meredith Stewart. "We, as a nation, have a shared set of ideals, rooted in the Bill of Rights: We have a right to be free of racial profiling and unlawful arrests. If we are not willing to uphold those ideals for everyone in this country, then we are all at risk of losing our rights." In the complaint, SPLC attorneys write that the federal officers conspired to plan and execute the forceful and prolonged seizure of the meatpacking plant's Latino workforce solely on the basis of their actual or apparent race or ethnicity.

The defendants are nine ICE agents who are accused of using "brutal and excessive force without any provocation." They cursed, shoved and punched workers, according to the SPLC complaint. A Tennessee group that's helping in the case says the lawsuit addresses the brutality the workers faced at the hands of agents. The nonprofit, Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition (TIRRC), claims the workplace raid was an "unconscionable abuse of power" with "human costs." The SPLC, an Obama-tied leftist group that helped a gunman commit an act of terrorism against a conservative organization, has the lead in the case. A few years ago a gunman received a 25-year prison sentence for carrying out the [politically-motivated shooting](#) of the Family Research Council (FRC) headquarters after admitting that he learned about the FRC from the SPLC "hate map." Prosecutors called it an act of terrorism and recommended a 45-year sentence.

Cheap labor explains why there is so much resistance to protecting our border.

### **Canada's Shameful Highway of Tears**

Judicial Watch hit a nerve with our investigation of the scandalous rate of murders and assaults inflicted upon Native American and Alaska Native women. Micah Morrison, our investigative reporter, covers it in his [Investigative Bulletin](#).

In January, Judicial Watch published a short report, [The Murders in Indian Country](#)," outlining the shocking rate of murders and assaults inflicted on Native American and Alaska Native women. While accurate information is scarce, surveys suggest that the women are murdered at a rate [ten times the national average](#). The response to the Judicial Watch report was tremendous. The story bounced around social media for weeks and prompted a stream of emails.

We noted that Congress had dropped the ball last year, allowing "Savanna's Act" to die in the House of Representatives. The bill had strong bipartisan support and would have forged new ties between law-enforcement agencies and improved data collection related to crimes against Native Americans and Alaska Natives. The bill was named for 22-year-old Savanna LaFontaine-Graywind, [brutally murdered](#) in North Dakota in 2017.

Now, Savanna's Act is back, reintroduced in the Senate by Lisa Murkowski of Alaska and Catherine Cortez Masto of Nevada. There is an "epidemic of murdered and missing Native women and girls," the senators said in a joint [press release](#).

Specifically, they noted, Savanna's Act "aims to bridge the gap of the limited data on the number of missing Native women by directing the U.S. Department of Justice to formulate new guidelines for the reporting of violent crimes against indigenous people. The bill improves tribal access to certain federal crime information databases by mandating that the Attorney General and the Secretary of the Interior consult with Indian tribes on how to further improve these databases and access to them. It also requires certain federal agencies to solicit recommendations

from tribes on enhancing the safety of Native women.”

The bill mandates “the creation of standardized guidelines for responding to cases of missing and murdered Native Americans, in consultations with tribes, which will include guidance on inter-jurisdictional cooperation among tribes and federal, state, and local law enforcement.” It requires “statistics on missing and murdered Native women, and recommendations on how to improve data collection, to be included in an annual report to Congress.”

Many of the responses to the Judicial Watch story came from Canada. “My daughter is Ojibway and I am scared to death for her safety,” a reader wrote. “Teenage girls are most likely to go missing. The public must know the facts on the staggering number of missing or dead Native youth.” This mother urged us to “look into the numbers in Canada, especially out west.”

Canada? That was news to us. So we took a look. Our readers in Canada were right. It’s a disgrace and a scandal.

Many killings and disappearances in Canada center around Highway 16, the so-called “Highway of Tears,” a 450-mile stretch of desolate roadway in British Columbia. “Dozens of Canadian women and girls, most of them indigenous, have disappeared or been murdered near Highway 16,” reports [The New York Times](#), “a remote ribbon of asphalt that bisects British Columbia and snakes past thick forests, logging towns and impoverished Indian reserves on its way to the Pacific Ocean.”

As in the U.S., there is no clear accounting of the missing and dead. A special unit of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police connected 18 cases to the Highway of Tears, the Times reported. But community activists “believe the total is closer to 50.” A [detailed chart](#) posted on Wikipedia puts the count at over 70. The [numbers controversy](#) extends to the entire country, where estimates of missing and dead women of indigenous descent range from 1,200 to more than 4,000.

The Highway of Tears is a symbol of the evil fortune fallen to indigenous women in North America in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It also has become “a political scandal in British Columbia,” the Times noted. A national inquiry was launched in 2017, but it appears to be [going nowhere](#). Meanwhile, the disappearances and deaths continue. In August, [18-year-old Jessica Patrick went missing](#) in Smithers, British Columbia—a bucolic mountain town along the Highway of Tears. In September, her body was found in the forest. Exactly a year earlier, the national inquiry commission had been in Smithers for three days of hearings, seeking answers and hearing pain.

## **702,000 Overstay Visa Nearly 20 Years after Terrorists Did It on 9/11**

The widespread failure to enforce our immigration laws is a dire threat to the public safety. Consider this from our [Corruption Chronicles blog](#).

Nearly two decades after Islamic terrorists exploited the U.S. government’s inept system for tracking visa overstay, more than 700,000 foreigners with expired visas remain at large in the country. The latest government figures show [702,000 overstays](#) in 2017. The disturbing stats come just weeks after a Portuguese man with an expired visa got charged with the gruesome [kidnap and murder](#) of a young woman whose body was found bound in a suitcase on a Connecticut street.

At least four of the September 11 hijackers were in the United States with expired visas and all these years later the government still hasn’t found a way to track visa overstayers. A few years ago, Judicial Watch obtained Department of Homeland Security (DHS) [figures](#) showing that 527,127 foreigners with expired visas remained in the country. Thousands are from terrorist nations like Pakistan, Iraq, Yemen, Libya and Syria. Here’s the breakdown as per the DHS stats provided four years ago: 1,435 from Pakistan, 681 from Iraq, 564 from Iran, 440 from Syria, 219 from Yemen, 219 from Afghanistan and 56 from Libya.

After the 9/11 attacks Congress created a [system](#) to track the entry and exit of foreign nationals by using electronically scanned fingerprints and photographs. Five years and \$1 billion later, the system, U.S. Visitor and

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Immigration Status Indicator Technology (US VISIT), still had serious flaws. Two years after that boondoggle was exposed the investigative arm of Congress, the Government Accountability Office (GAO), published a [report](#) that said nearly half of the nation's illegal aliens entered the U.S. legally and overstayed their visas undetected. In the years that followed the government did little to improve what has developed into a dire national security disaster. In 2011 yet another [federal audit](#) confirmed that the U.S. had lost track of millions who overstayed their visas and two years later the crisis intensified when [DHS lost track](#) of 266 dangerous foreigners with expired visas. The government determined that they "could pose a national security or public safety concerns," according to the director of Homeland Security and Justice at the GAO.

Now, nearly 20 years after the worst terrorist attack on American soil, the government still cannot close this critical security loophole. The latest [figures](#), released this month by the GAO, reveal that about 52.7 million nonimmigrant admissions to the U.S. through air or sea ports of entry were supposed to depart in fiscal year 2017. DHS reported 702,000 overstays, according to congressional investigators. Part of the problem is that DHS relies on third-party departure data. This includes commercial carrier passenger manifests. In other words, the government is depending on airlines and cruise ships to help it enforce visa violations. This occurs through a system that supposedly provides biographic data, including name and passport number. This next line may sound like a joke, but it comes right out of the GAO report: "Carriers are subject to fines for missing or inaccurate data." In the document DHS confirms that "identifying overstays is important for national security, public safety, and immigration enforcement."

Years ago the GAO estimated that [nearly half](#) of the nation's estimated 12 million illegal immigrants actually entered the U.S. legally but overstayed their visa. Some represent huge national security threats. For instance, a Jordanian who tried to blow up a Texas high rise overstayed his visa undetected by federal authorities. The Jordanian (Hosam Maher Husein Smadi), who vowed jihad against Americans and tried to blow up a Dallas skyscraper, remained undetected in the U.S after his tourist visa expired.

The Portuguese man charged with the recent murder of a 24-year-old woman was supposed to leave the U.S. in 2017. Authorities had no clue he never left until he committed an atrocious crime. The woman he murdered, Valerie Reyes, was reported missing in late January. A week later her body was found bound at the hands and feet in a suitcase off a road in Greenwich, an upscale town of about 61,000. It's worth noting that the entire state of Connecticut is an illegal immigrant sanctuary. Back in 2013 the state enacted a measure prohibiting local law enforcement from cooperating with federal immigration authorities by, among other things, ignoring federal detainees for illegal aliens arrested after committing certain crimes.

It's one thing for our inept government to find imaginative ways to waste our money, but failing to execute its security duties is a new low.

Until next week ...

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Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton

## Daywatch Updates

## Tom Fitton: Democrats in Congress on a 'fishing expedition' for President Trump

February 7, 2019- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on One America News Network to discuss the Democrat-controlled Congress opening investigations into President Trump.

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## Chris Farrell: Bruce Ohr is the Linchpin of the Steel Dossier Controversy

JW Director of Investigations and Research Chris Farrell appeared on "Lou Dobbs Tonight" on the Fox Business Network to discuss Bruce Ohr and Fusion GPS.

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## Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: Court Victory Against Deep State FBI

### Judge Declares FBI's Search for Peter Strzok Records Inadequate

A petulant child or employee will perform a task halfway and wait to see if he can get away with it. Such seems to be the strategy of the entire Deep State bureaucracy.

The FBI is particularly good at this, and we are particularly good at calling them on it. Luckily for the American people we have judges who respect the Freedom of Information Act.

A case in point: U.S. District Court Judge Christopher R. Cooper for the District of Columbia has agreed with that the FBI did not adequately search for records related to the removal and reassignment of Peter Strzok from special counsel Robert Mueller's investigative team. He was a former deputy to the assistant director for counterintelligence at the FBI.

In granting our request, Judge Cooper [ordered](#) the FBI to further search their records. (The original, deficient search had only returned [14 pages](#).)

The order comes in the December 2017 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) [lawsuit](#) we filed after the DOJ failed to respond to and August 17, 2017, request ([Judicial Watch, Inc. v. Federal Bureau of Investigation](#) (No. 1:17-cv-02682)). Judicial Watch seeks:

- All records regarding the assignment of FBI Supervisor Peter Strzok to the special counsel's investigation led by former Director Robert Mueller.
- All records related to the reassignment of FBI Supervisor Peter Strzok from the special counsel's investigation to another position within the FBI.
- All [SF-50 and/or SF-52](#) employment forms, as well as all related records of communication between any official, employee, or representative of the FBI and any other individual or entity.

On July 31, 2018, we [released](#) the first 14 pages of FBI documents produced in this FOIA lawsuit, showing that Strzok insisted on retaining his FBI security clearance before moving to the Mueller team and confirmed that Strzok played a pivotal role in the flawed Hillary Clinton email investigation.

In his decision, Judge Cooper called the FBI's search "overly cramped:"

Notwithstanding that Judicial Watch's request referred to Mueller by name ... the Bureau searched only for the term



“special counsel.” But surely one would expect that Agent Strzok and other FBI personnel might use the Special Counsel’s name — “Mueller” — rather than his title when discussing Strzok’s assignment to the Russia investigation, especially in informal emails. Another logical variation on “special counsel” is its commonly used acronym “SCO,” which appears to be used within the Special Counsel’s Office itself, as reflected by documents that the FBI uncovered and produced to Judicial Watch.

The ruling also stated that the FBI did not adequately respond to our FOIA lawsuit because it limited its search to only Strzok’s email account.

Judge Cooper ordered that the FBI must conduct a new search that includes “the email accounts of any of Agent Strzok’s superiors or other Bureau officials who were involved in the decision to assign him to the Special Counsel’s Office or the decision to reassign him to the FBI’s Human Resources Division after his removal from the Mueller investigation.”

The FBI must also expand its search to other forms of communication in addition to email. Given Strzok’s well-known use of text messaging, “it strikes the Court as reasonably likely that he discussed his assignment to the Special Counsel’s Office in text messages—which again is the standard for assessing an agency’s selection of search locations.”

Strzok was [reportedly](#) removed from the Mueller investigative team in August 2017 and reassigned to a human resources position after it was discovered that he and then-FBI lawyer Lisa Page exchanged text messages during the Clinton investigation and 2016 election season that raised serious questions about his anti-Trump/pro-Clinton bias. They were also engaged in an extramarital affair. Strzok infamously [texted](#) “there’s no way he gets elected — but I’m afraid we can’t take that risk.”

Strzok reportedly oversaw the FBI’s interviews of former National Security Adviser, General Michael Flynn; [changed](#) former FBI Director James Comey’s language about Hillary Clinton’s actions regarding her illicit email server from “grossly negligent” to “extremely careless;” played a lead role in the FBI’s [interview of Clinton](#) and is suspected of being responsible for using the [unverified dossier](#) to obtain a FISA warrant in order to spy on President Trump’s campaign.

The Court rightly slammed the FBI for its gamesmanship in searching for records about one of the most notorious FBI agents of all time – Peter Strzok. The FBI leadership is in cover-up mode on its abuses targeting President Trump, and we’re pleased a federal court pushed back on this stonewall.

### Judicial Watch Sues for Key Anti-Trump Coup Doc

Perhaps you remember the 1964 film “Seven Days in May,” in which a Deep State cabal plotted a takeover of the government. Burt Lancaster starred, and Rod Serling, appropriately, wrote script.

Now we’re living through a real life “Eight Days in May” featuring Rod Rosenstein, the disgraced former FBI official Andrew McCabe and a slew of characters conniving to bring down a real life President.

In the latest scene we are suing the Department of Justice for the communications of Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein between May 8 and May 17, 2017.

We filed the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit after the DOJ failed to respond to a September 21, 2018, FOIA request ([Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice](#) (No. 1:19-cv-00481)). We are seeking:

Any and all e-mails, text messages, or other records of communication addressed to or received by Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein between May 8, 2017, and May 22, 2017.

This time period is critical. On May 8, 2017, Rosenstein wrote a [memo](#) to President Trump recommending that FBI Director James Comey be fired. The next day, President Trump fired Comey. On May 17 Rosenstein [appointed](#) former FBI Director Robert Mueller to investigate Russian meddling in the 2016 presidential election.

Between May 8 and May 17, Rosenstein [met with](#) then-acting FBI Director Andrew McCabe and other senior Justice Department FBI officials and discussed invoking the 25<sup>th</sup> Amendment to remove President Trump and whether Rosenstein and others should wear a wire to secretly record conversations with the President.

We previously filed a [FOIA lawsuit](#) seeking the communications of former FBI Deputy Director McCabe, the Office of the Attorney General Jeff Sessions, or the Office of Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein discussing the 25<sup>th</sup> Amendment or presidential fitness. Additionally, that lawsuit seeks all recordings made by any official in the Office of the Attorney General or Deputy Attorney General of meetings in the Executive Office of the President or Vice President.

These critical days in May, a scant three months into President Trump's term, included extraordinary targeting of President Trump by Rod Rosenstein and other Deep State officials at the DOJ and FBI. Our focused FOIA lawsuit aims to uncover exactly what Mr. Rosenstein's role was in any discussions to overthrow President Trump.

I don't have much use for Hollywood, but sometimes it ominously foreshadows reality.

### **Judicial Watch Files Ethics Complaint Against Congressman Adam Schiff**

The plot deep within the Justice Department to bring down President Trump is but one of three legs: The DOJ/FBI maneuver has been given covering fire all along by the media, and it has been buttressed by members of the Congress, whose unhinged behavior has seriously eroded that institution's credibility.

No one has been more eager to get in front of the cameras and spout knowingly false conspiracy theories than Adam Schiff, the California Democrat who is, remarkably, chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

We have now filed an [official complaint](#) with the Office of Congressional Ethics about Rep. Schiff's controversial communications and contacts with two congressional witnesses: Glenn Simpson of Fusion GPS and Michael Cohen, President Trump's former personal lawyer.

We are asking that Rep. Schiff be investigated in connection with recent revelations that he met with Simpson in Aspen, Colorado, in July 2018 and that he and his staff coordinated with Michael Cohen on Cohen's recent testimony to congressional committees. Cohen's testimony is alleged to be false in several important respects.

You will recall that we filed an [ethics complaint](#) on April 13, 2018, against Rep. Schiff and Rep. Jackie Speier (D-CA) for improperly confirming classified information in violation of House rules but the Committee has yet to take any public action on the complaint.

Rep. Schiff has an ethics problem. His and his staff's irregular communications with anti-Trump witnesses reflect poorly on the credibility of the House and its committees' investigations. It has long been apparent that Rep. Schiff can't be trusted to lead the Intelligence Committee, so we hope that Democrats on the Ethics Committee stop protecting Mr. Schiff and take action.

In our complaint we elaborate on our concerns:

Dear Chairman Skaggs,

Judicial Watch is a non-profit, non-partisan educational foundation, which promotes transparency, accountability and integrity in government and fidelity to the rule of law. We regularly monitor congressional ethics issues as part of our anti-corruption mission.

This letter serves as our official complaint to the Office of Congressional Ethics (OCE) concerning the activities of Rep. Adam Schiff. Rep. Schiff appears to have violated House Code of Official Conduct, Rule 23, clauses 1 and 2, by inappropriately communicating with witnesses. Clauses 1 and 2 provide:

1. A Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner, officer, or employee of the House shall behave at all times in a manner that shall reflect creditably on the House.

2. A Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner, officer, or employee of the House shall adhere to the spirit and the letter of the Rules of the House and to the rules of duly constituted committees thereof.

Rep. Adam Schiff attended the Aspen Security Forum conference in July 2018, which was also attended by Glenn Simpson, the founder of the firm Fusion GPS. Press reports have detailed evidence of a meeting and discussion between Rep. Schiff and Glenn Simpson at the July 2018 Aspen Security Forum. As noted in [The Hill](#) newspaper:

At the time of the encounter, Simpson was an important witness in the House Intelligence Committee probe who had given sworn testimony about alleged, but still unproven, collusion between Russia and the Trump campaign.

Fusion GPS is the political opposition research firm involved in procuring “unverified” information claiming the Trump presidential campaign had “colluded” with Russia, among other things. That Fusion GPS-supplied information was the basis upon which the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) obtained Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) surveillance warrants against Trump campaign volunteer Carter Page.

Mr. Simpson’s leadership of Fusion GPS and his centrality to events resulted in his having to testify before congressional committees or their staffs. Specifically, Mr. Simpson testified before the House Intelligence Committee, of which Rep. Schiff was the ranking Democratic member, on October 16, 2018 – approximately three (3) months after the Aspen Security Forum.

We note that following revelations in 2017 that Rep. Devin Nunes had informed President Trump that U.S. intelligence agencies had been engaging in “incidental collection” of his campaign’s communications, Rep. Schiff demanded that Rep. Nunes, then Chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, recuse himself from any investigations involving alleged Trump collusion with Russia. Indeed, [Rep. Schiff wrote](#) the following on twitter:

This is not a recommendation I make lightly ... But in much the same way that the attorney general [Jeff Sessions] was forced to recuse himself from the Russia investigation after failing to inform the Senate of his meetings with Russian officials, I believe the public cannot have the necessary confidence that matters involving the president’s campaign or transition team can be objectively investigated or overseen by the chairman.

Then-Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi concurred with Rep. Schiff’s call for Mr. Nunes to recuse himself.

The July 2018 contacts between Rep. Schiff and Mr. Simpson create, at a minimum, the appearance of impropriety. As a result of Rep. Schiff’s previously undisclosed, private discussions with Mr. Simpson, the public’s confidence in Mr. Schiff’s ability to objectively and impartially carry out his duties as Committee Chair of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence has been gravely damaged.

Further, Rep. Schiff’s contacts with Mr. Michael Cohen should also be scrutinized in the same light as the Simpson contacts. Journalists [have reported](#):

President Trump’s former personal attorney Michael Cohen told House investigators this week that staff for Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff, D-Calif., traveled to New York at least four times to meet with him for over 10 hours immediately before last month’s high-profile public testimony, according to two sources familiar with the matter – as Republicans question whether the meetings amounted to coaching a witness.

The sources said the sessions covered a slew of topics addressed during the public hearing before the oversight committee – including the National Enquirer’s “Catch and Kill” policy, American Media CEO David Pecker and the alleged undervaluing of President Trump’s assets.

Again, Rep. Schiff's conduct creates the appearance of unethical collusion and synchronization of efforts that calls into question whether Cohen's testimony was a legitimate congressional hearing or well-rehearsed political theatre.

During Mr. Cohen's congressional testimony, he was questioned by Rep. Mike Turner concerning the number, nature and subject of his [Cohen's] contacts with the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. Rep Jim Jordan pressed Cohen on the subject in subsequent questioning. Cohen hesitantly acknowledged that he had spoken with Schiff "about [topics](#) that were going to be raised at the upcoming hearing."

A pattern of conduct on the part of Rep. Schiff in these matters would exponentially increase the gravity of the prejudice and harm to the public's confidence in the institution of the House of Representatives.

Rep. Schiff's conduct and contacts with witnesses must be treated with the same gravity that Reps. Schiff and Pelosi accorded Rep. Nunes's actions. Rep. Nunes recused himself for a time from certain oversight responsibilities with respect to the Russia-Trump investigations.

In the least, Rep. Schiff and his staff communications with Glenn Simpson and Michael Cohen, undermine the "credibility of the House" and its committee proceedings, especially given Mr. Cohen's subsequent alleged false testimony.

We call upon the OCE to investigate Rep. Schiff and his previously undisclosed, inappropriate contact with key witnesses in congressional investigation over which that Member holds significant sway.

Thank you for your attention.

The ethics process in the House is a mess so I don't expect something quickly to happen, but it is important that we put the House on official notice so no politician there has an excuse to let Adam Schiff's untoward behavior slide.

### **Clinton Email Scandal Witness Testimony Begins**

In January U.S. District Judge Royce C. Lamberth [ordered](#) senior Obama Administration officials — including Susan Rice, Ben Rhodes, Jacob Sullivan, and FBI official E.W. Priestap — to respond under oath to our questions regarding Benghazi and the Clinton email scandal.

We now have a schedule for the depositions.

This court-ordered discovery comes in our July 2014 FOIA [lawsuit](#) filed after the U.S. Department of State failed to respond to a May 13, 2014 FOIA request ([Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of State](#) (No. 1:14-cv-01242)). Judicial Watch seeks:

Copies of any updates and/or talking points given to Ambassador Rice by the White House or any federal agency concerning, regarding, or related to the September 11, 2012 attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya.

Any and all records or communications concerning, regarding, or relating to talking points or updates on the Benghazi attack given to Ambassador Rice by the White House or any federal agency.

Remember that this lawsuit [led directly](#) to the disclosure of the Clinton email system in 2015.

Our discovery will seek answers to:

- Whether Clinton intentionally attempted to evade the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) by using a non-government email system;
- whether the State Department's efforts to settle this case beginning in late 2014 amounted to bad faith; and
- whether the State Department adequately searched for records responsive to Judicial Watch's FOIA request.

The confirmed discovery schedule now includes:

March 12: State Department's responses to interrogatories and document requests were due.

March 14: Deposition of [Justin Cooper](#), a former aide to Bill Clinton who [reportedly](#) had no security clearance and is believed to have played a key role in setting up Hillary Clinton's non-government email system.

April 5: Deposition of [John Hackett](#), a State Department records official "immediately responsible for responding to [requests for records](#) under the Freedom of Information Act."

April 16: Deposition of [Jacob "Jake" Sullivan](#), Hillary Clinton's former senior advisor and deputy chief of staff.

April 23: Deposition of [Sheryl Walter](#), former State Department Director of the Office of Information Programs and Services/Global Information Services.

April 26: Deposition of [Gene Smilansky](#), a State Department lawyer.

April 30. Deposition of Monica Tillery, a State Department official.

May 7: Deposition of Jonathon Wasser, who was a management analyst on the Executive Secretariat staff. Wasser worked for Deputy Director Clarence Finney and was the State Department employee who actually conducted the searches for records in response to FOIA requests to the Office of the Secretary.

May 14: Deposition of [Clarence Finney](#), the deputy director of the Executive Secretariat staff who was the principal advisor and records management expert in the Office of the Secretary responsible for control of all correspondence and records for Hillary Clinton and other State Department officials.

June 11: 30(b)(6) Deposition, which will be designated by the State Department.

June 13: Deposition of [Heather Samuelson](#), the former State Department senior advisor who helped facilitate the State Department's receipt and release of Hillary Clinton's emails.

As yet to be determined is the deposition date for Assistant Secretary for Diplomatic Security [Eric Boswell](#), who wrote a [March 2, 2009](#), internal memorandum titled "Use of Blackberries on Mahogany Row," in which he strongly advised that the devices not be allowed.

Written questions under oath are to be answered by:

[Monica Hanley](#), Hillary Clinton's former confidential assistant at the State Department.

[Lauren Jiloty](#), Clinton's former special assistant.

[E.W. Priestap](#), is serving as assistant director of the FBI's counterintelligence division and helped oversee [both](#) the Clinton email and the 2016 presidential campaign investigations. Priestap testified in a separate lawsuit that Clinton was the subject of a grand jury investigation related to her BlackBerry email accounts.

[Susan Rice](#), President Obama's former UN ambassador who appeared on Sunday television news shows following the Benghazi attacks, blaming a ["hateful video."](#) Rice was also Obama's national security advisor involved in the "unmasking" the identities of senior Trump officials caught up in the surveillance of foreign targets.

[Ben Rhodes](#), an Obama-era White House deputy strategic communications adviser who attempted to orchestrate a campaign to "reinforce" Obama and to portray the Benghazi consulate terrorist attack as being "rooted in an Internet video, and not a failure of policy."

We're doing the heavy lifting in the Clinton email scandal, even as Congress dropped the ball and DOJ and State continued to obstruct our quest for the truth. The Court in our case wants real answers on the Clinton email scandal, which is why our

request for basic discovery was granted.

### Judicial Watch is #1 on FOIA!

Since 2001 we have led all nonprofit organizations in filing Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuits, according to figures [released](#) late last year by The FOIA Project of Syracuse University.

We are announcing this in honor of "[Sunshine Week](#)," March 10-16, which is an "annual nationwide celebration of access to public information."

According to the [FOIAproject.org](#)'s most recent study, we were again No. 1 on the top ten list of most frequent Nonprofit/Advocacy Groups (Jan 21, 2001-July 2018) challenging federal government withholding in court and for the Bush, Obama and Trump administrations.

### Overall Top 10 FOIA Filers (Jan 21, 2001 – July 2018)

Rank	Plaintiff in FOIA Suit	Number Filed
1.	Judicial Watch	391
2.	American Civil Liberties Union	130
3.	Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility	94
4.	Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington	88
5.	Electronic Privacy Information Center	74
6.	Natural Resources Defense Council	59
7.	Center for Biological Diversity	47
8.	Cause of Action Institute	44
9.	American Oversight	43
10.	Electronic Frontier Foundation	43

The [FOIA Project](#) "aims to: (1) create a shaming mechanism by which agencies and officials who ignore the law are held accountable, and (2) arm the public with the full record of FOIA efforts that have and haven't worked, so anyone can more effectively surmount frequently used roadblocks to public access."

We use the open records or freedom of information laws and other tools to uncover misconduct by government officials and hold to account those who engage in corrupt activities. When agencies balk at releasing information that is of value to the public, we sue.

The Freedom of Information Act was signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson in 1966 to improve public access to government records. The FOIA Project [says](#) there is wide agreement that the FOIA's administrative process has many flaws, with federal agencies frequently resisting its mandates by either refusing to provide properly requested records or ignoring the requirements that the documents be made available within specified time periods.

The most-sued agency is the Department of Justice, which has been the defendant in 2,312 FOIA suits since 2001. Within the DOJ, the FBI has been the most sued division with 712 suits. We frequently clash with the DOJ and FBI in court, often in cases involving IRS malfeasance, the Clinton email scandal, and the Robert Mueller special counsel investigation. Judicial Watch currently is pursuing 40 lawsuits against the DOJ.

We are the most important transparency watchdog organization in the country. For 25 years, we've led the way in holding the government to account as both the media and Congress have gone AWOL. Most of what we know about government corruption – from Clinton emails to Deep State abuses – are as a result of our historic FOIA lawsuits.

We couldn't have done this without the loyalty of our many supporters. Thank you.

Until next week,

□

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Peter Strzok is absolutely shameless

FBI agent Peter Strzok was full of indignant outrage Thursday as he testified before Congress. But the basic facts speak for themselves: With his flagrant misconduct, Peter Strzok brought shame to the FBI and the entire Justice Department. He should be ashamed of himself, rather than playing the victim.

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### Emails Reveal FBI Official Peter Strzok Insisted on Retaining Declassification During Mueller Special Counsel Assignment

Judicial Watch released 14 pages of FBI documents concerning the assignment of former FBI Deputy Assistant Director Peter Strzok to Special Counsel Robert Mueller's operation, showing that Strzok insisted on retaining his FBI security clearance before moving to the Mueller team and confirming that Strzok played a pivotal role in the flawed Hillary Clinton email investigation.

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**From:** Tom Fitton <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 8:10 PM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: Cover-Up Smoking Guns on Clinton Emails

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INSIDE JW

## Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: Cover-Up Smoking Guns on Clinton Emails

□

### Judicial Watch Uncovers 'Cover-Up' Discussions in Clinton Email Documents

Judicial Watch's hard-fought litigation again struck pay dirt with new smoking gun evidence of a literal "cover-up" tied to the illicit Hillary Clinton email system.

This week, we made public [422 pages](#) of FBI documents showing evidence of "cover-up" discussions related to the Clinton email system within Platte River Networks, one of the vendors who managed the infamous Clinton email system.

The documents also show Intelligence Community Inspector General (ICIG) Charles McCullough forwarding "concerns" about classified information in Clinton's emails. These documents also contain Clinton's 2009 classified information [Non-Disclosure Agreement](#) bearing her signature.

Our October 2016 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit ([Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice](#) (No. 1:16-cv-02046)) forced the release of the new FBI documents. We sued after the Justice Department failed to comply with our July 7, 2016, FOIA request for a key group of FBI investigative files on the Clinton email issue.

Here is a sampling of what we have discovered.

[FBI notes](#) of an interview with an unidentified Platte River Networks official in February 2016 (almost a year after the Clinton email network was first revealed) show that Platte River "gave someone access to live HRC archive mailbox at some point." The same notes show that an email from December 11, 2014, exists that reads "Hillary cover up operation work ticket archive cleanup." The interviewee said that the "cover up operation" email "probably related to change to 60 day [sic] email retention policy/backup." The subject indicated that he didn't "recall the prior policy." The notes also indicated, "[Redacted] advised [redacted] not to answer questions related to conv [conversation] w/DK [David Kendall] document 49 – based on 5th amendment."

The subject said that "everyone @ PRN has access to client portal."

A December 11, 2014, Platte River Networks [email](#) between redacted parties says: "Its [sic] all part of the Hillary coverup operation <smile> I'll have to tell you about it at the party"

An August 2015 [email](#) from Platte River Networks says: "So does this mean we don't have offsite backups currently? That could be a problem if someone hacks this thing and jacks it up. We will have to be able to produce a copy of it somehow, or we're in some deep shit. Also, what ever [sic] came from the guys at Datto about the old backups? Do they have anyway [sic] of getting those back after we were told to cut it to 30 days?"

In March 2015, Platte River Networks specifically [discusses security](#) of the email server.

[Redacted] is going to send over a list of recommendations for us to apply for additional security against hackers. He did say we should probably remove all Clinton files, folders, info off our servers etc. on an independent drive.

Handwritten [notes](#) that appear to be from Platte River Networks in February 2016 mention questions concerning the Clinton email system and state of back-ups.

The documents show Platte River Networks' use of [BleachBit](#) on the Clinton server. The BleachBit program was downloaded from a vendor called SourceForge at 11:42am on March 31, 2015, according to a computer event log, and over the next half hour, was used to delete the files on Hillary's server.

The documents also contain emails and handwritten notes written in June and July 2015 from the Office of the Intelligence Community Inspector General discussing "[concerns](#)" over classified information. A redacted sender writes to State Department Official Margaret "Peggy" Grafeld that "inadvertent release of State Department's equities when this collection is released in its entirety — the potential damage to the foreign relations of the United States could be significant. ICIG McCullough forwards the concern, saying: "Need you plugged in on this."

**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 27, 2015 2:46 PM  
**To:** Grafeld, Margaret P [Peggy]  
**Subject:** Concerns about the HRC Review ...

While working with this inspector, I have personally reviewed hundreds of documents in the HRC collection. I can now say, without reservation, that there are literally hundreds of classified emails in this collection; maybe more. For example, there are comments by Department staff in emails relating to the Wikileaks unauthorized disclosures; many of the emails relating to this actually confirm the information in the disclosures. This material is the subject of FOIA litigation, and the emails will now have to be found, reviewed and upgraded. Under the EO 13526, it would be in our right to classify the entire HRC collection at the Secret level because of the "mosaic effect." While there may be IC equities in the collection, I am very concerned about the inadvertent release of State Department's equities when this collection is released in its entirety — the potential damage to the foreign relations of the United States could be significant.

\*\*\*

**From:** Chuck McCullough [sic]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2015 11:16 AM  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** FW: SBU FW: Concerns about the HRC Review ...

[Redacted]  
Need you plugged in on this. Need to coordinate w/ State's WB person.

In an August 2015 [classified memo](#) prepared by the FBI Counterintelligence Division regarding the findings of the ICIG with respect to Hillary's email server, the FBI noted that the ICIG had found that in a sampling of only 40 of Hillary's 30,000 emails, four classified emails were found. A subsequent [letter](#) sent by Sen. Richard Burr (R-NC) to ODNI Clapper regarding this sample of Clinton's emails noted that they were all classified at the secret level.

In an August 2015 [internal FBI memo](#), the FBI notes that Hillary Clinton had signed a June 28, 2011, official correspondence advising all State Department employees that, "due to 'recent targeting of personal e-mail accounts by online adversaries,' State employees should 'avoid conducting official Department business from (their) personal e-mail accounts.'" The same FBI memo noted that Under Secretary of State for Management Patrick Kennedy had sent a memo to all senior State Department officials on August 28, 2014, in which Kennedy included excerpts from the Foreign Affairs Manual that said that "classified information must be sent via classified e-mail channels only..."

The documents we uncovered also show [infighting](#) between State Department Under Secretary Patrick Kennedy and the ICIG over the processing of the [potentially compromised](#) Clinton email communications.

A June 15, 2015, [memo for the record](#) prepared by the ICIG regarding the State Department's review of Hillary Clinton's emails indicates, among other things, the retired foreign service officers that State was using to review Hillary's emails were not "not optimal."

**Evaluation of other agencies' equities is not optimal** State Department is currently relying on retired senior Foreign Service Officers to review for other agencies' equities in FOIA cases. For example, a review of the first set of 296 emails received from former-Secretary Clinton and released on the State Department FOIA website identified material that should have been referred to IC FOIA officials for review prior to release. **Recommend State Department FOIA Office request staff support from IC FOIA offices to assist in the identification of intelligence community equities.** [Emphasis in original]

\*\*\*

According to State FOIA personnel, during the State Department Legal Office's review, four of the BI [national security] exemptions were removed and changed to "B5" FOIA exemptions (Privileged Communications). **Recommend State Department FOIA Office seek classification expertise from the interagency to act as a final arbiter if there is a question regarding potentially classified materials.** [Emphasis in original]

**It is unclear if the Department of Justice is reviewing the emails before FOIA release.** Former-Secretary Clinton's emails are the subject of numerous FOIA requests and multiple FOIA lawsuits. It may be prudent to integrate the Department of Justice into the FOIA process review to ensure the redactions can withstand potential legal challenges. **If not already being done, recommend the State Department FOIA Office incorporate the Department of Justice into the FOIA process to ensure the legal sufficiency review of the FOIA exemptions and redactions.** [Emphasis in original]

An August 4, 2015, [interview](#) by the FBI of State Department IG Steven Linick mentions an incident on "May 13, 2011 2:28 am Huma [Abedin] – Phil Rein potential hack."

On October 15, 2012, Clinton's IT technician [Bryan Pagliano](#) sent to Bill Clinton's aide Justin Cooper a bill indicating that on July 28-29, 2012, Pagliano had to address the issue of "Mailbox Corruption" of Hillary Clinton's email server, spending a total of 5.5 hours on the problem. Other invoices show that he had to "fix corruption in justin's [Cooper's] mailbox; " have a "conference call with security team;" "Blocked spammer [sic] smtp address for Viagra message;" "virus investigation and cleanup;" "clean up virus from bb [BlackBerry] profile;" and multiple "brute force attacks" against Hillary Clinton's server, requiring him to "reset password." The documents show that Pagliano was paid [\\$40,337.86](#) over four years by the Clinton Executive Service Corp.

In a 2016 deposition in a separate Judicial Watch [lawsuit](#), Pagliano repeatedly invoked his Fifth Amendment right to not answer questions regarding IT support he provided to the Clinton email system.

An August 2015 [letter](#) from the United States Secret Service to the Counterintelligence Division of the FBI, addresses a request regarding preservation of records in connection with Clinton's email system. The letter also cites Judicial Watch's litigation concerning preservation of her email server records. The Secret Service writes that its searches "did not reveal any responsive documents ... [n]otwithstanding, the Secret Service will send out a preservation request for the Agency records listed in your correspondence ..."

A July 2015 [letter](#) from the National Archives requests information from the State Department regarding "the training, procedures and other controls" employed by the State Department to ensure key record management directives were implemented regarding "the management of email and other electronic records of senior agency officials." Also, the Archives requests "that the Department contact the representatives of former Secretary Clinton to secure the native electronic versions with associated metadata" of the 55,000 hard copies of emails provided to the State Department.

November 2012 [classified emails](#) from Jake Sullivan, Clinton's top foreign policy adviser, discuss a "Report of arrests – possible Benghazi connection" with her.

A [request for travel](#) dated November 2015 shows that the FBI dispatched special agents to Spain and Bahrain to conduct interviews in the "Midyear Exam" regarding a "sensitive investigative matter."

Other released materials include [letters](#) from Clinton's personal lawyer David Kendall throughout the production. On June 24, 2015, Kendall writes to the State Department Inspector General that the State Department is in possession of "all Secretary Clinton's work-related ... emails." He continues that, as Hillary's personal counsel, "We continue to retain a preservation copy of the .pst file containing the electronic copies of those e-mails, on a thumb drive that is stored in a secured safe at the offices of Williams and Connolly ..."

I note at the outset that the Department of State is in possession of all of Secretary Clinton's work-related and potentially work-related e-mails. Specifically, in response to an October 2014 letter request from the Department of State, Secretary Clinton's counsel identified all work-related or potentially work-related e-mail in her possession, custody, or control. In total, 30,490 e-mails, all of which were from her @clintonemail.com account, were identified and provided in hard copy to the Department of State in December 2014. As her personal counsel, we continue to retain a preservation copy of the .pst file containing the electronic copies of those e-mails, on a thumb drive that is stored in a secured safe at the offices of Williams & Connolly LLP, 725 12<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Washington DC 20005. The only two persons authorized to access that thumb drive are me and my law partner, Katherine Turner.

(As it protected Hillary Clinton, the Obama administration shifted the investigative might of the government to spy on her opposing candidate, Donald Trump! I talked about [this](#) on "Fox & Friends First" on the Fox News Channel [yesterday](#).)

These newly released "cover-up" records on the illicit Clinton email system further demonstrate the sham nature of the FBI/DOJ "investigation" of Clinton. These shocking new documents show that various Obama agencies were protecting Hillary Clinton from the consequences of her misconduct. It is well past time for the DOJ to stop shielding Hillary Clinton and hold her fully accountable to the rule of law.

#### □ **Billions in Remittances Flow to Mexico Through a Government Program**

While the politicians argued over \$5 billion for a wall along the border with Mexico, the government was busy helping people, who are in this country *illegally*, to send more than \$33 billion out of the country. Our *Corruption Chronicles* blog has [the story](#):

Though President Trump said he would [block](#) money transfers to Mexico to fund a much-needed border wall, Mexicans in the U.S. sent a record \$33.48 billion in remittances last year, and a big chunk of it flowed through a government program operated by the Federal Reserve. This means that, amid an onslaught of illegal immigration, the U.S. government is largely responsible for the billions in remittances flowing south of the border from illegal aliens. [Figures](#) released by Mexico's central bank show that 104 million transactions were executed in 2018, nearly six million more than the previous year.

Uncle Sam facilitates the process with a program called ["Directo a Mexico"](#) (Direct to Mexico), launched by the Federal Reserve, the government agency that serves as the nation's central bank, more than a decade ago. President George W. Bush came up with the idea following the 2001 U.S.-Mexico Partnership for Prosperity to provide low-cost banking services to illegal immigrants and facilitate the procedure for those sending money home. In its first year, 2005, remittances to Mexico topped [\\$20 billion](#) and the Federal Reserve reports "double-digit percentage growth for the past several years." Remittances are transferred through the Federal Reserve's own automated clearinghouse linked directly to Mexico's central bank (Banco de Mexico). The Trump administration should eliminate it because it undermines our nation's immigration laws and is a potential national security nightmare.

Back in 2006 Judicial Watch investigated the outrageous taxpayer-subsidized initiative and obtained [government records](#) that shed light on how it functions. Marketing materials target immigrant workers in the U.S.—regardless of their legal status—as well as banks, credit unions and other financial institutions. The program is promoted as "the best way to send money home," offering "more pesos for every dollar." American financial institutions are charged

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\$0.67 per item to transfer money from the United States to Mexican banks, ensuring a “highly competitive rate.” The Federal Reserve also provides participating U.S. financial institutions with Spanish language promotional materials to “help get your message out.” The marketing materials also include the number of Mexican migrants in the U.S. with no distinction between those here illegally or not. A separate list identifies thousands of Mexican banks receiving “Directo a México” transfers.

When the program was created Federal Reserve officials acknowledged that most of the Mexican nationals who send money back home are [illegal immigrants](#) so a Mexican-issued identification is the only requirement to use the government banking service. A colorful brochure promoting “Directo a Mexico” offered to help immigrants who don’t have bank accounts and assured the best foreign exchange rate and low transfer fees. A frequently asked question section posed this: “If I return to Mexico or am deported, will I lose the money in my bank account?” The answer: “No. The money still belongs to you and can easily be accessed at an ATM in Mexico using your debit card.” In short, the U.S. created this special banking system specifically for illegal aliens and tens of billions of dollars have streamed through it.

As a presidential candidate Trump proposed a plan to get Mexico to fund a border wall by cutting off remittance payments from Mexican migrants in the U.S. In a [memo](#) to a mainstream newspaper Trump wrote that Mexican migrants send \$24 billion in remittances annually and the estimated cost of a border wall would be between \$5 billion and \$10 billion. According to his plan, the [U.S. Patriot Act](#) would be amended to block wire transfers from Mexican nationals using companies such as Western Union. Nowhere in the document is the Federal Reserve’s special program, which clearly caters to illegal immigrants. The president is well aware that the overwhelming majority of remittances to Mexico are sent by those living in the U.S. illegally. In fact, his proposal was to create a rule that “no alien may wire money outside of the United States unless the alien first provides a document establishing his lawful presence in the United States.” The Federal Reserve’s “Directo a Mexico” has no such requirement as the commander-in-chief completes his first term.

Until next week ...

□

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: At Least 11 FBI Payments went to Steele

August 5, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Fox and Friends” on the Fox News Channel to discuss The FBI released 71 pages of redacted documents tied to the bureau’s relationship with Christopher Steele.

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## Tom Fitton: Rosenstein Needs to be Removed or Investigated

September 25, 2018- Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on the “Intelligence Report with Trish Regan” on the Fox Business Network to discuss what to expect from President Trump’s meeting with Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein.

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**From:** Tom Fitton <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 15, 2019 4:12 PM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: FBI-Clinton Email Corruption Scandals Exposed

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## Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: FBI-Clinton Email Corruption Scandals Exposed

□

### FBI Covered Up Potential Violations of Law by Hillary Clinton

As we watch the slow-motion coup against President Trump let's not forget that at its heart is the Deep State's desire to protect Hillary Clinton from the consequences of her illicit behavior.

Now we have more evidence of their cover-up.

We just received [186 pages](#) of records from the Department of Justice that include emails documenting an evident cover-up of a chart of potential violations of law by former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

We obtained the records through a January 2018 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) [lawsuit](#) we filed after the DOJ failed to respond to a December 4, 2017 FOIA request ([Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice](#) (No. 1:18-cv-00154)). Judicial Watch is seeking all communications between FBI official Peter Strzok and FBI attorney Lisa Page.

The new emails came in response to a May 21 [order](#) by U.S. District Judge Reggie B. Walton to the FBI to begin processing 13,000 pages of records exchanged exclusively between Strzok and Page between February 1, 2015, and December 2017. The FBI may not complete review and production of all the Strzok-Page communications until at least 2020.

- Three days after then-FBI Director James Comey's press conference announcing that he would not recommend the prosecution of Mrs. Clinton, a July 8, 2016, [email chain](#) shows that the Special Counsel to the FBI's executive assistant director in charge of the National Security Branch, whose name is redacted, wrote to Strzok and others that he was producing a "chart of the statutory violations considered during the investigation [of Clinton's server], and the reasons for the recommendation not to prosecute..."

**[Redacted] writes:** I am still working on an additional page for these TPs that consist of a chart of the statutory violations considered during the investigation, and the reasons for the recommendation not to prosecute, hopefully in non-lawyer friendly terms ...

**Strzok forwards to Page, [Jonathan Moffa](#) and others:** I have redlined some points. Broadly, I have some concerns about asking some of our [sic] senior field folks to get into the business of briefing this case, particularly when we have the D's [Comey's] statement as a kind of stand alone document. In my opinion, there's too much nuance, detail, and potential for missteps. But I get they may likely be asked for comment.

**[Redacted] writes to Strzok, Page and others:** The DD [Andrew McCabe] will need to approve these before they are pushed out to anyone. At the end of last week, he wasn't inclined to send them to anyone. But it's



great to have them on the shelf in case they're needed.

**[Redacted] writes to Strzok and Page:** I'm really not sure why they continued working on these [talking points]. In the morning, I'll make sure Andy [McCabe] tells Mike [Kortan] to keep these in his pocket. I guess Andy just didn't ever have a moment to turn these off with Mike like he said he would.

**Page replies:** Yes, agree that this is not a good idea.

Neither these talking points nor the chart of potential violations committed by Clinton and her associates has been released.

- On May 15, 2016, [James Rybicki](#), former chief of staff to Comey, sends FBI General Counsel James Baker; [Bill Priestap](#), former assistant director of the FBI's counterintelligence division; McCabe; Page; and others [an email](#) with the subject line "Request from the Director."

**Rybicki writes:** By NLT [no later than] next Monday, the Director would like to see a list of all cases charged in the last 20 years where the gravamen of the charge was mishandling classified information.

It should be in chart form with: (1) case name, (2) a short summary for content (3) charges brought, and (4) charge of conviction.

If need be, we can get it from NSD [National Security Division] and let them know that the Director asked for this personally.

Please let me know who can take the lead on this.

Thanks!

Jim

**Page forwards to Strzok:** FYSA [For your situational awareness]

**Strzok replies to Page:** I'll take the lead, of course – sounds like an espionage section question... Or do you think OGC [Office of the General Counsel] should?

And the more reason for us to get feedback to Rybicki, as we all identified this as an issue/question over a week ago.

**Page replies:** I was going to reply to Jim [Rybicki] and tell him I can talk [sic] to you about this already. Do you want me to?

- A July 22, 2016, [email exchange](#), among Strzok, Page, Moffa and other unidentified FBI and DOJ officials, shows that Beth Wilkinson, an attorney for several top Clinton aides during the server investigation, wanted a conference call with the DOJ/FBI and that she was "haranguing" the FBI/DOJ about the return of laptops in the FBI's possession:

**A Wilkinson Walsh attorney, emails [Redacted] FBI National Security Division Officials:** We wanted to follow up on our conversation from a few days ago. We would like to schedule a time to speak with both you and [Redacted] early next week. Is there a time on Monday or Tuesday that could work on your end?

**[Redacted] FBI National Security Division official emails:** See below. I am flexible on Monday and Tuesday. [Redacted] can chime in with her availability. It is my understanding that Toscas [\[George Toscas\]](#), who helped lead Midyear Exam] may have called over to Jim or Trisha [former Principal Deputy General Counsel [Trisha Anderson](#)] regarding some high-level participation for at least the first few such calls. I am happy to discuss further but wanted to send you this so you could raise within the OGC [Office of the General Counsel] and give me a sense of scheduling options. I am around if you want to talk.

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\*\*\*

**[Redacted] FBI National Security Division official writes:** In the meantime, I'll tell Hal that we will certainly schedule a call and will get back to him as to timing. Since he knows Beth [Wilkinson] personally, it could be useful to have Jim on the phone if she is going to be haranguing us re: the laptops.

**[Redacted] FBI Office of the General Counsel writes:** More...I guess this is [Redacted's] rationale for why we need to have the GC on the call to discuss the fact that we will be following all of our legal obligations and FBI policies/procedures with regard to the disposition of the materials in this case.

**Strzok writes:** You are perfectly competent to speak to the legal obligations and FBI policy/procedures. We should NOT be treating opposing counsel this way. We would not in any other case.

- A July 22, 2016, [email exchange](#) initiated by an email from Strzok to [Redacted] within the Justice Department's National Security Division (NSD), Strzok asks the NSD official if he'd like to add anything to the agenda of a meeting to occur three days later between FBI and DOJ attorneys.

**[Redacted] NSD official responds:** Would like to see what you have on your agenda so we could see what we might want to add on our end. I will mention to [Redacted]. Also interested in understanding FBI OGC's analysis of the privilege and ethics issues we are facing.

**Strzok forwards to Page:** Pretty nonresponsive....

**Page responds:** Why provide them an agenda? I wouldn't do that until you have a sense of how Andy [McCabe] wants to go. So no. We'll talk about what we're going to talk about and then they can talk about what they want to talk about. Also, seriously Pete. F him. OGC needs to provide an analysis? We haven't done one. But they seem to be categorical that it's just impossible, I'd just like to know why.

And now I'm angry before bed again.?

Total indulgence, there's a TV in here. Here's hoping I can find something to sufficiently melt my brain???

**Strzok replies:** Because I want to make this productive! Why NOT provide them an agenda!?!? We all talk about what we want to talk about and that's a waste of time.

They haven't done one either (legal analysis)

Assume noble intent.

How do we maximize this use of time?

**Page writes:** I'm ignoring all this and going to bed.

Strzok and Page were discussing a meeting that the Justice Department and FBI were about to have concerning, among other things, "privilege and ethics issues we are facing."

- On July 12, 2016, Eugene Kiely, the director of FactCheck.org, [emailed](#) the FBI about inconsistencies he'd identified between Comey's congressional testimony and statements by Clinton and her campaign about her deletion of emails. Kiely noted that Comey testified to the House that Clinton did not give her lawyers any instructions on which of her emails to delete, whereas Clinton herself told the press that she made the decision on which emails should be deleted. Kiely also pointed out that Comey said in his testimony that there were three Clinton emails containing classification "portion markings," whereas the State Department had said there were only two Clinton emails with

classification markings. Kiely's inquiry set off an internal discussion at the top of the FBI on how to respond to his questions.

**Strzok writes:** "We're looking into it and will get back to you this afternoon; the answer may require some tweaking, the question is whether this is the forum to do it." The email is addressed to FBI intelligence analyst Moffa; Moffa; Rybicki; [Michael Kortan](#), FBI assistant director for public affairs, now retired; Lisa Page and others.

Strzok's suggested press response is fully redacted, but included is his deferral to the "7<sup>th</sup> floor as to whether to release to this reporter or in another manner."

When asked "should we provide any additional information to FactCheck.org or would any updates more appropriately be give [sic] directly to Congress?" Strzok defers to "Jim/Lisa [Page]" and [Redacted].

- In response to a March 29, 2016, article in [The Hill](#), forwarded by Strzok to Page, reporting that Judge Royce Lamberth ordered limited discovery for Judicial Watch in its lawsuit against the State Department for Clinton's [emails](#) (related to the Benghazi attack) – and thus opening Clinton up to possible depositions by Judicial Watch – Page responds simply: "Oh boy."

What this all means: We have caught the FBI in another cover-up to protect Hillary Clinton. These records show that the FBI is hiding a chart detailing possible violations of law by Hillary Clinton and the supposed reasons she was not prosecuted.

Let us hope our new attorney general is paying attention.

□

### **Docs Show State/FBI Bribery Scandal to Help Protect Hillary Clinton**

I have said before that untangling the knot of Deep State collusion in support of Hillary Clinton will take time, but we continue pulling the strands and getting results.

We have now received [215 pages](#) of records from the U.S. Department of Justice revealing Clinton/FBI connections. Former FBI General Counsel James Baker discussed the investigation of Clinton-related emails on Anthony Weiner's laptop with Clinton's lawyer, David Kendall. Baker then forwarded the conversation to his FBI colleagues.

The documents also further describe a previously reported *quid pro quo* from the Obama State Department offering the FBI more legal attaché positions if it would downgrade a redaction in an email found during the Hillary Clinton email investigation "from classified to something else."

This batch comes thanks to the same Judicial Watch lawsuit described above for:

- All records of communications, including but not limited to, emails, text messages and instant chats, between FBI official Peter Strzok and FBI attorney Lisa Page;
- All travel requests, travel authorizations, travel vouchers and expense reports of Peter Strzok.
- All travel requests, travel authorizations, travel vouchers and expense reports of Lisa Page.

On October 28, 2016, the day that Comey [sent a letter](#) to Congress regarding the FBI's discovery that the Weiner laptop contained Clinton's emails, Hillary Clinton's personal lawyer David Kendall, within hours, [emails](#) Baker requesting a call "ASAP" about the Comey letter. Baker describes his follow-up call to senior FBI officials:

I received the email below from David Kendall and I called him back. Before doing so I alerted DOJ via email that I would do that.

[Redacted paragraph]

He said that our letter was “tantalizingly ambiguous” and made statements that were “inchoate and highly ominous” such that what we had done was worse than transparency because it allows people to make whatever they want out to make out of the letter to the prejudice of Secretary Clinton.

I told him that I could not respond to his requests at this time but that I would discuss it with others and get back to him.

I suggest that we have some kind of follow up meeting or phone call with this group either this evening or over the weekend to address this and probably other issues/questions that come up in the next 24 hours. Sound reasonable?

Baker’s heads-up on the Kendall call was sent to:

- Then-Director [James Comey](#); since fired;
- Then-Associate Deputy Director [David Bowdich](#), who later replaced Andrew McCabe as deputy director;
- [Michael Steinbach](#), the F.B.I.’s former executive assistant director for national security;
- Then-Assistant Director of Counterintelligence [E.W. Priestap](#), now retired;
- [James Rybicki](#), former chief of staff to Comey;
- FBI intelligence analyst [Jonathan Moffa](#);
- Former Acting Assistant Director [Jason V. Herring](#);
- [Michael Kortan](#), FBI assistant director for public affairs, now retired;
- Former principal deputy general counsel [Trisha Anderson](#);
- Strzok and Page

The emails show that a conference call for the above senior officials was set up for the next day by Peter Strzok. (Two days before the election, on November 6, Comey sent a [second letter](#) reporting that the FBI’s review of the Weiner laptop material would not change his “conclusion” that Hillary Clinton should not be prosecuted.)

On October 13, 2016, former FBI attorney Lisa Page sent [an email](#), which apparently references a related Judicial Watch FOIA [lawsuit](#) and further discusses a [previously reported](#) *quid pro quo* offer from the State Department:

Jason Herring will be providing you with three 302s of current and former FBI employees who were interviewed during the course of the Clinton investigation. These 302s are scheduled to be released to Congress in an unredacted form at the end of the week, and produced (with redactions) pursuant to FOIA at the beginning of next week. As you will see, they describe a discussion about potential *quid pro quo* arrangement between then-DAD in IOD [deputy assistant director in International Operations Division] and an Undersecretary at the State Department whereby IOD would get more LEGAT [legal attaché] positions **if the FBI could change the basis of the FOIA withhold re a Clinton email from classified to something else.** [Emphasis added]

The lawsuit also forced the release of a November 6, 2016, [email](#) by then-FBI official Peter Strzok telling Bowdich, Priestap, Rybicki, Page, former FBI General Counsel James Baker and others: “[Redacted], Jon and I completed our review of all of the potential HRC work emails on the [Anthony Weiner] laptop. We found no previously unknown, potentially classified emails on the media [laptop].”

As we [previously reported](#), there were at least 18 classified emails found on the Weiner laptop by the FBI. Paul Sperry’s *RealClear Investigations* [report](#) revealed that only 3,077 of the 340,000 emails “were directly reviewed for classified or incriminating information.”

The new records also include a September 2, 2016, [email](#) that Comey forwards containing a press release issued that day by Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA), in which Grassley criticized the FBI for not publicly releasing many unclassified records related to the Clinton email-server investigation, as demanded by Congress. In his cover note responding to Grassley’s charge, Comey tells his top aides, “To be great is to be misunderstood.” Page then responds with, “Outstanding.”

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On October 23, 2016, Strzok [forwarded](#) to Page and others the *Wall Street Journal* article revealing that [Andrew McCabe's](#) wife had received a half million dollars for her Democratic state senate campaign. Page responded that the article "shaded or omitted or mischaracterized" facts "in order to get out the story [the reporter] wanted to tell." She claimed the *WSJ* story was just "another depressing chapter in this whole post-investigation saga."

It is big news that, just days before the presidential election, Hillary Clinton's personal lawyer pressured the top lawyer for the FBI on the infamous Weiner laptop emails.

The media picked up on our finds. Here are some sample headlines. [Fox News](#): "FBI's top brass raced to handle Fox News inquiry on alleged quid pro quo over Clinton emails, new documents show," and [Daily Mail](#): "FBI's infamous texting lover Lisa Page described 'quid pro quo' with State Department to trade more overseas staff for help downgrading 'classified' Hillary Clinton email."

These documents further underscore that the fix was in for Hillary Clinton. When will the Justice Department and FBI finally do an honest investigation of the Clinton email scandal?

We're not holding our breath on that. Last month, United States District Judge Royce C. Lamberth [ruled](#) that discovery can begin in Hillary Clinton's email scandal.

Our discovery will seek answers to:

- Whether Clinton intentionally attempted to evade the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) by using a non-government email system;
- whether the State Department's efforts to settle this case beginning in late 2014 amounted to bad faith; and
- whether the State Department adequately searched for records responsive to Judicial Watch's FOIA request.

These latest documents add to the growing evidence of malfeasance in the highest offices of the land to advance the cause of Hillary Clinton.

### **Left Tries to Torpedo Census Question About Citizenship!**

The Left is a destroyer of truth and is opposed to the transparency necessary for citizens to meaningfully govern themselves in our constitutional republic.

We are taking on their truth suppression efforts with our friends in the Allied Educational Foundation (AEF). We jointly filed this week an urgent [amici curiae brief](#) in the United States Supreme Court, urging it to overturn the [ruling](#) of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York blocking the Secretary of Commerce from adding a question about citizenship to the 2020 census.

The brief argues that including a citizenship question would help us and the government make sure only eligible citizens are on the voting rolls:

Adding a citizenship question to the decennial census would generate a massive amount of new data concerning the numbers of citizens and noncitizens in U.S. states and counties. To quibble about potential limitations in the data that would be collected is to miss the point. It cannot be the case that we are somehow better off with *less* information. The mountain of new data generated by the decennial census question will assist private litigants and the Department of Justice in their efforts to enforce the National Voter Registration Act. Indeed, this data will overcome limitations identified by a federal court concerning the current data on citizenship

Our brief cites a decision by the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida in [Bellitto v. Snipes \(No. 16-cv-61474\)](#), which criticized the current source for citizenship information, a limited survey called the American Community Survey. We argued that getting more data about the citizen voting-age population (CVAP) is critical to enforcement of the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) and the Voting Rights Act.

Our brief also joins the Commerce Department in arguing that the lower court overstepped its bounds in blocking the Secretary of Commerce's decision about what to include:

[A] determination about what to include on a census questionnaire is committed to agency discretion and is unreviewable under the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) [and] a court determining whether an agency action is arbitrary and capricious under the APA may not substitute its judgment for that of the agency.

This Judicial Watch/AEF filing comes in the case [\*U.S. Department of Commerce, et al. v. State of New York, et al\*](#) (18-966), which is on emergency appeal to the Supreme Court. The New York district court decision under appeal was a consolidation of two cases (*State of New York, et al. v. U.S. Department of Commerce, et al.* (18-cv-2921) and *New York Immigration Coalition, et al. v. U.S. Department of Commerce, et al.* (18-cv-5025)) challenging the decision of the Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross to add a citizenship question to the 2020 census questionnaire. The district court held that Ross's decision failed to "comply with the policy decisions that Congress — to which the Constitution gives authority over the census — has made and enshrined in statute, including but not limited to the preference for obtaining data through administrative records rather than through direct inquiries."

Our brief responds:

[T]he Department of Justice stated that citizenship data was "critical" to its efforts to enforce Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act and that the decennial census was "the most appropriate vehicle" for asking a question about citizenship. The Secretary of Commerce agreed. In so acting, the Secretary rejected the argument that including a citizenship question would reduce the response rate for noncitizens. The Secretary found that the available data did not support this suggestion and added that the value of "more complete and accurate" citizenship data outweighed the disadvantages that might arise from a lower response rate.

We are the national leader in enforcing the provisions of the NVRA. In early January, we announced a [settlement agreement](#) with the State of California and County of Los Angeles under which they will begin the process of removing from their voter registration rolls as many as 1.5 million inactive registered names that may be invalid.

This was only the third statewide settlement achieved by private plaintiffs under the NVRA – and we were the plaintiff in each of those cases. The other statewide settlements were with [Ohio](#) (in 2014) and with [Kentucky](#) (2018), which agreed to a court-ordered consent decree.

Leftists hate the idea of the American people knowing the number of foreign nationals in the United States, which is why they oppose a census question about citizenship. The good breaking news is the Supreme Court just decided today to take up the Census case.

You can be sure that we will continue to urge the Supreme Court should reject the lower court judicial power grab that would unlawfully restrict the Trump administration from getting more information about the residents of the United States.

### **How the Deep State Colludes with Its Friends in the Media**

Did you see CNN's video of the FBI raiding the home of Roger Stone and his wife in the middle of the night? The CNN team was apparently there an hour before the heavily armed agents showed up.

Do they have a really good nose for news, or do they have a good ear for whispers from Robert Mueller's special counsel operation eager for another anti-Trump photo op?

We want to find out.

We have sent [an official complaint](#) to the Justice Department's Office of Inspector General (IG) calling for investigations into

leaks of information about Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation.

Our complaint asks for an investigation of any leaks to CNN about the controversial raid on the home of Roger Stone and for leaks to *BuzzFeed* suggesting that President Trump directed Michael Cohen to lie to Congress.

On January 25, 2019, CNN was the only media outlet to be present and shooting [exclusive footage](#) of the SWAT-team type raid by the FBI when it arrested former Trump associate Roger Stone at his home in Florida. Though CNN has claimed that its being on site in the dark of night was merely a matter of "good instincts," Acting Attorney General Matthew Whitaker told a congressional committee last week that "It was [deeply concerning](#) to me as to how CNN found out about that."

In our complaint, we point out that an Inspector General investigation is required due to an apparent violation of "Limited Official Use" information, which is "unclassified information of a sensitive, proprietary or personally private nature which must be protected against release to unauthorized individuals, and this term is prescribed for use within the Department to signify such information."

On January 17, 2019, *BuzzFeed* published an [article](#) titled "President Trump Directed His Attorney Michael Cohen To Lie To Congress About the Moscow Tower Project." In the article, the authors reveal that they were given information "according to two federal law enforcement officials involved in an investigation of the matter." Mueller's office, in a rare public rebuke, later [disputed](#) the story:

BuzzFeed's description of specific statements to the Special Counsel's Office, and characterization of documents and testimony obtained by this office, regarding Michael Cohen's Congressional testimony are not accurate.

In our complaint, we ask for an investigation into the *BuzzFeed* question and "equal application of the law," considering "former FBI Director James Comey launched a federal leak investigation following comments made by former New York City Mayor [Rudy Giuliani](#) ... suggesting that he had advance knowledge gleaned from federal agents of the reopening of the Hillary Clinton email server investigation resulting from the discovery of Mrs. Clinton's emails on Anthony Weiner's laptop."

The Justice Department IG must immediately investigate leaks that place law enforcement at risk and are designed to lawlessly destroy President Trump. Deep State opponents of President Trump shouldn't be allowed to break the law to advance their effort to overthrow the president.

Here is the full complaint:

Dear Sir:

Judicial Watch, Inc. is a non-profit, non-partisan educational foundation that promotes transparency, accountability, and integrity in government and fidelity to the rule of law. We regularly monitor the operations of the federal government as part of our anti-corruption mission.

This letter serves as our formal complaint for you to open investigations into two (2) matters related to Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation, that we believe may involve violations of federal law and/or Department of Justice regulations.

The first matter involves reported leaks by federal law enforcement officials to reporters at *BuzzFeed News*, an online news outlet, alleging President Trump directed his former legal counsel, Michael Cohen, to lie to members of Congress in sworn testimony. Specifically, *BuzzFeed* reporters Jason Leopold and Anthony Cormier published an article titled "President Trump Directed His Attorney Michael Cohen To Lie To Congress About the Moscow Tower Project."

The opening paragraph of the article, published on January 17, 2019, stated:



President Donald Trump directed his longtime attorney Michael Cohen to lie to Congress about negotiations to build a Trump Tower in Moscow, **according to two federal law enforcement officials involved in an investigation of the matter.** [Emphasis added]

(<https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/jasonleopold/trump-russia-cohen-moscow-tower-mueller-investigation>)

We note that, according to public reporting, former FBI Director James Comey launched a federal leak investigation following comments made by former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani in a *Fox News* interview in 2016 suggesting that he had advance knowledge gleaned from federal agents of the reopening of the Hillary Clinton email server investigation resulting from the discovery of Mrs. Clinton's emails on Anthony Weiner's laptop.

(<https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/393134-giuliani-fbi-asked-me-about-tease-of-surprise-before-election>)

Therefore, as a matter of equal application of the law, we request that a leak investigation related to the *BuzzFeed* reporters' claims be undertaken.

The second matter to which we bring your attention that requires an Inspector General investigation relates to the apparent advance unauthorized disclosure or notice provided to CNN of the FBI arrest of former Trump associate Roger Stone on January 25, 2019.

Specifically, information related to the pending arrest of a suspect would be considered Limited Official Use (LOU) information, which is governed by DOJ Regulation 2620.7, to wit:

*Limited Official Use information is unclassified information of a sensitive, proprietary or personally private nature which must be protected against release to unauthorized individuals, and this term is prescribed for use within the Department to signify such information.*

Among those categories of information is any that could result in physical risk to individuals."

(<https://www.justice.gov/jmd/doj-26207-control-and-protection-limited-official-use-information>)

The close proximity of civilians in the form of CNN journalists to the scene of an arrest that apparently required upwards of two dozen heavily armed federal agents would seem to pose a physical risk to those individuals.

Therefore, the apparent advance unauthorized disclosures or notice provided to *CNN* by federal officials of the pending arrest of Mr. Stone would appear to violate DOJ guidelines. Regulation 2620.7 also stipulates:

UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE. Heads of Departmental organizations shall ensure that prompt and appropriate administrative action is taken against personnel responsible for disclosure of Limited Official Use material to unauthorized individuals and issue appropriate directives, if needed, to affect this action.

We hereby request that the Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General undertake investigations into both aforementioned apparent violations of federal law and/or regulations.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Until next week ...

□

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton



Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: Steele was Working for the Clinton Camp to Target President Trump

August 10, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Hannity” on the Fox News Channel to discuss Judicial Watch lawsuits for DOJ for access to communications between Bruce Ohr, Christopher Steele and Fusion GPS.

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### Tom Fitton: Democrats in Congress on a ‘fishing expedition’ for President Trump

February 7, 2019- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on One America News Network to discuss the Democrat-controlled Congress opening investigations into President Trump.

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**From:** Tom Fitton <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Friday, March 08, 2019 6:44 PM EST

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: Judicial Watch Exposes Deep State Anti-Trump Collusion

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email originated from a non-COJ email address. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

INSIDE JW

## Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: Judicial Watch Exposes Deep State Anti-Trump Collusion

□

### DOJ Records Showing Numerous Bruce Ohr Communications with Clinton-linked Fusion GPS and Christopher Steele

Big news. We just uncovered [339 pages](#) of heavily redacted records from the Justice Department which reveal that former Associate Deputy Attorney General Bruce Ohr remained in regular contact with former British spy and Fusion GPS contractor Christopher Steele after Steele [was terminated](#) by the FBI in November 2016 for revealing to the media his position as an FBI confidential informant.

The records show that Ohr served as a go-between for Steele by passing along information to “his colleagues” on matters relating to Steele’s activities. Ohr also set up meetings with Steele, regularly talked to him on the telephone and provided him assistance in dealing with situations Steele was confronting with the media.

“Get Trump” Dossier author Steele worked for the Glenn Simpson’s Fusion GPS, the Hillary Clinton campaign/DNC contractor that also employed Nellie Ohr, Bruce Ohr’s wife.

We obtained the records through a March 2018 Freedom of Information Act [lawsuit](#) filed after the Justice Department failed to respond a December 2017 request [Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice](#) (No. 1:18-cv-00490)). The lawsuit sought:

- All records of contact or communication, including but not limited to emails, text messages, and instant chats between Bruce Ohr and any of the following individuals/entities: former British intelligence officer Christopher Steele; owner of Fusion GPS Glenn Simpson; and any other employees or representatives of Fusion GPS.
- All travel requests, authorizations and expense reports for Bruce Ohr.
- All calendar entries for Bruce Ohr.

We asked for records from January 1, 2015, to December 7, 2017. Of course, the emails between Bruce Ohr and Steele were heavily redacted, including some of the dates they were sent and received.

Here is a sampling.

On Friday, July 29, 2016, Steele [emails](#) Bruce Ohr about a meeting that is to include Bruce’s wife [Nellie Ohr](#), who [then worked](#) for [Fusion GPS](#), at the Mayflower Hotel:

Steele: Dear Bruce,

Just to let you know I shall be in DC at short notice on business from this PM till Saturday eve, staying at the Mayflower Hotel. If you are in town it would be good to meet up, perhaps for breakfast tomorrow morn? Happy to see Nellie too if she's up for it. Please let me know. Best, Chris

**Ohr:** Dear Chris –

Nice to hear from you! Nellie and I would be up for breakfast tomorrow and can come into town. What would be a good time for you? Bruce

**Steele:** Thanks Bruce.

On me at the Mayflower Hotel, Conn Ave NW at 0900 should work but I'll confirm the time for definite this eve if I may. Looking forward to seeing you. Chris

**Ohr:** Sounds good, but we won't let you pay for breakfast! I'll wait for your confirmation on time. Bruce

**Steele:** Let's do 0900 then. See you in the lobby. Chris

**Ohr:** Very good. See you at 900.

On Saturday, July 30, 2016, Steele sends his thanks to Bruce Ohr for the meeting, "Great to see you and Nellie this morning:"

**Ohr:** Great to see you and Nellie this morning Bruce. Let's keep in touch on the substantive issues/s. Glenn [Fusion GPS co-founder [Glenn Simpson](#)] is happy to speak to you on this if it would help. Best, Chris

On Friday, September 16, 2016, Steele and Ohr begin planning [a meeting](#) in the Capital Hilton:

**Steele:** Dear Bruce,

I hope you are well. I am probably going to visit Washington again in the next couple of weeks on business of mutual interest. I would like to see you again in person and therefore to coordinate diaries. So when are you planning to be in town please? Thanks and Best, Chris

P.S. I don't think I have up to date cell or landline phone numbers for you. Grateful if you could send met them.

**Ohr:** Hi Chris –

It would be great to see you I DC. I'll be out of town Sept 19-21 but should be here the rest of the time. My numbers are office 202 307 2510 and cell [Redacted] Let me know what works best for you.

**Steele:** Dear Bruce,

I have now arrived in DC and am staying at the Capital Hilton, 1101 16<sup>th</sup> Street NW. I don't know my client-related programme yet but am keen to meet up with you. Might we provisionally say breakfast on Friday morn or even tomorrow morn if necessary? Look forward to hearing back from you. Best, Chris

**Ohr:** Hi Chris

Would tomorrow for breakfast still work for you? My calendar is pretty good tomorrow morning, not so good on Friday. An early breakfast Friday, say 8 am?, would work too. Should I come to your hotel? Bruce

**Steele:** Thanks Bruce.

0800 on Friday would still be better for me, at the hotel. More useful to all I think, after my scheduled meetings tomorrow. Thanks, Chris

**Ohr:** Chris –

Perfect. I'll see you Friday at your hotel at 8 am. Bruce

Bruce Ohr's December 8, 2016, [phone log](#) shows he called Simpson for a meeting "tomorrow at 3."

Bruce Ohr's December 13, 2016, [phone log](#) shows he spoke with Glenn Simpson the day before and received "some more news." The log also lists "Rod Rosenstein 5:48 pm."

An [exchange](#) beginning December 11, 2016, between Bruce Ohr and Simpson shows them discussing a *Daily Beast* and a *Think Progress* article and setting up a phone call between them.

The documents we obtained show a string of [encrypted text messages](#) from January to November 2017, well after the FBI had terminated Steele, discussing a possible new point of contact should Ohr leave the FBI; a series of appointments for phone calls; and assurance that Ohr shared information with his "colleagues":

On January 31, 2017, messages are exchanged between Bruce Ohr and Steele regarding fired acting Attorney General [Sally Yates](#):

**Steele:** B, doubtless a sad and crazy day for you re-SY [Sally Yates]. Just wanted to check you are OK, still in situ and able to help locally as discussed, along with your Bureau colleagues, with our guy if the need arises? Many Thanks and Best as Always, C

**Ohr:** Bruce: Yes, a crazy day. I'm still here and able to help as discussed. I'll let you know if that Changes. Thanks!

**Steele:** Thanks. You have my sympathy and support. If you end up out though, I really need another (Bureau?) contact point/number who is briefed. We can't allow our guy to be forced to go back home. It would be disastrous all round, though his position right now looks stable. A million thanks. C

**Ohr:** Bruce: Understood. I can certainly give you an FBI contact if it becomes necessary.

On March 6, 2017, Senator Grassley wrote [a letter](#) to former FBI Director Comey regarding payments to Steele.

On March 7, 2017, messages are exchanged between Steel and Bruce Ohr about the Grassley letter:

**Steele:** Would it be possible to speak later today please? We're very concerned by the Grassley letter and it's possible implications for our operations and our sources. We need some reassurance. Many thanks

**Ohr:** Bruce: Sure Would 1:30 today, DC time, work?

**Steele:** Yes thanks it would.... I know you'll appreciate why we are concerned.

**Ohr:** Bruce: Of course.

**Ohr:** Bruce: My Skype app is acting up. Can we use the Whatapp [sic] voice call?

**Ohr:** Bruce: I think my skype is working now if you want to call me.

**Steele:** Thanks for that, old friend. Please do fight our cause and keep in touch. Really fundamental issues at stake here. Very Best

**Ohr:** Bruce: Likewise, hang in there!

An exchange beginning on March 18, 2017, tells of apprehension regarding Comey's scheduled March 20, 2017, [testimony](#) before Congress and hopes that "important firewalls will hold":

**Steele:** Hi! Just wondering if you had any news? Obviously we're a bit apprehensive given Comey's scheduled appearance at Congress on Monday. Hoping that important firewalls will hold. Many thanks,

**Ohr:** Bruce: Sorry, no new news. I believe my earlier information is still accurate. I will let you know immediately if there is any change.

Beginning on March 24, 2017, following Comey's testimony, Ohr and Steele discuss "our response:"

**Steele:** Hi Bruce, ... we understand an approach from the Senate Intelligence Committee to us is imminent. I would like to discuss this and our response with you in the next couple of days if possible. Please let me know when might suit? Many thanks and Best, Chris

**Ohr:** We can chat this weekend if you are available. Would sometime on Sunday work for you? I'm pretty open.

**Steele:** Thanks Bruce. Let's speak on Sunday eve UK time, maybe 1400 or 1500 EST if that works for you? Best

**Ohr:** Bruce: 1400 east coast time on Sunday will work. Thanks and talk with you then.

On March 30, 2017, Steele writes to Bruce Ohr about concerns with Senate Intelligence Committee leaks:

**Steele:** Hi Bruce, any news? The Senate Intel Committee is leaking like a sieve [Redacted] Hopefully speak soon. Best, Chris

**Ohr:** Chris, no news on this end, aside from what I'm reading in the papers. Just amazing. [Redacted] Let me know if you would like to talk.

In May several messages are exchanged regarding scheduling calls ending on May 15, 2017, with Bruce Ohr confirming that he spoke with the FBI and will update Steele:

**Ohr:** Bruce: thanks again. I chatted with my colleagues and can give you an update when you have a minute.

On July 16, 2017, Steele asks Bruce Ohr to pass on information, and Ohr agrees:

**Steele:** Hi Bruce, hope you're enjoying the summer. [Redacted] Please pass this on as appropriate. Crazy week over there just past! Best, Chris

**Ohr:** Bruce: Hi Chris, it's good to hear from you. Hope all is well. I will pass this along to my colleagues. Thanks!

On October 26, 2017, Steele says he's "very concerned" about [documents the FBI intends to turn over](#) to Congress "about my work and relationship with them:"

**Steele:** Hi Bruce. Can we have a word tomorrow please? Just seen a story in the media about the Bureau handing over docs to Congress about my work and relationship with them. Very concerned about this. Peoples live may be engangered [sic]. [Redacted] Thanks, Chris

On October 30, 2017, Steele writes that he spoke to Simpson about information discussed with Bruce Ohr:

**Steele:** Bruce, having spoken with Glenn [Simpson] in London today, I now understand and appreciate what you were

talking about on Saturday. Love and Best Wishes to you, Nellie and all the family.

On November 18, 2017, Steele and Ohr plan to discuss “difficulties and uncertainty” via Whatsapp:

**Steele:** Dear Bruce, I hope you and the family are well. It's been another tough week here under the media spotlight and with legal pressures bearing down on us. I am presuming [redacted]. Also, we remain in the dark as to what has been briefed to Congress about us, our assets and previous work. I know you understand the importance of all this and have done your very best to support us, but we would be grateful if you could continue to [Redacted]. Sincere thanks for everything you are doing and I hope to speak to you again soon. Best, Chris

**Ohr:** Chris, thanks for reaching out. I understand the difficulties and uncertainty you are experiencing. I [redacted]. Let's plan to talk early in the week – Bruce

**Steele:** Hi Bruce, is there any chance we could have a catch-up Whatsapp call this eve GMT, maybe around 1500 with you? Otherwise tomorrow eve GMT? Many thanks, Chris

**Ohr:** Bruce: Chris – I have a meeting ending at 1500 today that might spill over a few minutes. Would 1515 work for you?

**Steele:** Yes, of course. C

**Ohr:** Bruce: I will call you then.

The documents also show that Nellie Ohr sent numerous emails and reports to Bruce Ohr and other Justice Department officials on Russia issues.

These smoking gun documents show that Christopher Steele, a Hillary Clinton operative and anti-Trump foreign national, secretly worked hand-in-glove with the Justice Department on its illicit targeting of President Trump

These documents leave no doubt that for more than a year after the FBI fired Christopher Steele for leaking, and for some 10 months after Donald Trump was sworn in as president, Bruce Ohr continued to act as a go-between for Steele with the FBI and Justice Department. The anti-Trump Russia investigation, now run by Robert Mueller, has been thoroughly compromised by this insider corruption.

Earlier we released [412 pages](#) of documents about FISA (Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act) warrants targeting Carter Page, who had been a Trump campaign adviser, which seem to confirm that the FBI and DOJ misled the courts in withholding the material information that Hillary Clinton's campaign and the DNC were behind the “intelligence” used to persuade the courts to approve the FISA warrants that targeted the Trump team.

We revealed that the Justice Department (DOJ) admitted in a court filing that the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court held [no hearings](#) on the FISA spy warrant applications targeting Page, who was the subject of four controversial FISA warrants.

We also uncovered documents showing that [Steele was cut off](#) as a “Confidential Human Source” (CHS) after he disclosed his relationship with the FBI to a third party. The documents show at least 11 FBI payments to Steele in 2016 and document that he was admonished for unknown reasons in February 2016.

We have more documents coming and more lawsuits pending on this Deep State collusion to target President Trump, so stay tuned...

#### **Judicial Watch Sues DOJ for Records on Effort to Rollback Trump Decision to Declassify Russia Probe Documents**

The Deep State bureaucracy is adept at covering up misconduct by government officials – especially the misconduct related to the illicit spying on and targeting of President Trump. This is why Judicial Watch's independent lawsuits to pry

loose information on this assault on the rule of law are essential.

We just filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the Department of Justice for records about the agency's involvement in persuading President Trump to defer his September 2018 decision to declassify DOJ documents related to the Russia investigation.

Our lawsuit is also seeking DOJ official Bruce Ohr's records of communications around the time of Trump's declassification announcement. Ohr, once the fourth-ranking official at DOJ, was a [key conduit](#) between anti-Trump dossier author Christopher Steele and the FBI.

We filed the lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia after the DOJ failed to respond to a September 18, 2018, FOIA request ([Judicial Watch v U.S. Department of Justice](#) (No. 1:19-cv-00507)). Judicial Watch seeks:

Any and all records regarding, concerning, or related to the proposed declassification of certain Department of Justice records as ordered by President Trump on September 17, 2018. The request includes, but is not limited to, any and all related records of communication sent by or addressed to any official, employee, or representative of the Department of Justice.

Any and all emails or other records of communication sent by or addressed to DOJ official Bruce Ohr between September 16, 2018 and September 18, 2018.

On September 17, 2018, President Trump [ordered](#) the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) and the Justice Department to declassify certain documents related to the investigation of possible meddling by Russia in the 2016 election. The documents included FBI reports on interviews with Ohr; pages of an application for a renewed surveillance warrant against Carter Page; and all FBI reports of interviews prepared in connection with all other applications to surveil Carter Page. Also included are text messages of Ohr, former FBI agent Peter Strzok, former FBI lawyer Lisa Page, former FBI Director James Comey and former FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe.

White House spokeswoman Sarah Sanders said that Trump ordered the documents released "at the request of a number of committees of Congress, and for reasons of transparency."

On September 21, 2018, President Trump [tweeted](#): "I met with the DOJ concerning the declassification of various UNREDACTED documents. They agreed to release them but stated that so doing may have a perceived negative impact on the Russia probe. Also, key Allies' called to ask not to release."

In a follow-on [tweet](#), President Trump said: "Therefore, the Inspector General ... has been asked to review these documents on an expedited basis. I believe he will move quickly on this (and hopefully other things which he is looking at). In the end I can always declassify if it proves necessary. Speed is very important to me - and everyone!"

The documents have not yet been declassified.

The UK's *Telegraph* [reported](#) that the British spy agency MI6 had urged Trump not to declassify the documents.

We have little doubt the Deep State DOJ is improperly trying to cover-up FISA abuse and other Russia hoax documents that President Trump initially ordered declassified. President Trump should immediately declassify these documents in order to expose any other abuses by the DOJ and FBI. Regardless, Judicial Watch will continue to press for the truth through the courts in the ongoing Deep State scandal.

### **Obama Holdover Fires Journalists Over Report Critical of Soros**

Two years into the administration of President Trump we have a holdover Obama appointee firing government employees in seeming retaliation for a report critical of the left-wing billionaire activist George Soros. The story involves your own Judicial Watch, as our *Corruption Chronicles* blog [reports](#).



At the request of a scandal-plagued Democratic senator tried for bribery and corruption, the head of the government's international media networks is abusing his office to punish employees behind a broadcast critical of leftwing billionaire George Soros. U.S. Agency for Global Media (USAGM) Chief John F. Lansing, an Obama appointee, is utilizing Stalinist techniques to retaliate against the journalists and producers involved in the Spanish-language segment which aired in May 2018 on Television Martí and was available for months online. Eight reporters and editors at the taxpayer-funded media outlet have been fired and Lansing has ordered a [review](#) of all content to address "patterns of unethical, unprofessional, biased, or sub-standard journalism."

An employee at the Miami, Florida-based Martí headquarters said in a local [newspaper report](#) "the environment that has been created by the upper hierarchy of the Agency for Global Media is repressive. People write with fear. Adjectives are no longer used."

Television Martí—and its radio counterpart—operate under the Office of Cuba Broadcasting (OCB) and comprise one of the USAGM's five international multimedia networks. The others are Voice of America (VOA), Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL), Radio Free Asia and Middle East Broadcasting. The media outlets get about \$685 million a year from American taxpayers and reportedly reach 345 million people worldwide in 59 languages. The global media agency was created to counter disinformation spread by oppressive regimes abroad. The USAGM [website](#) states that its mission is "to inform, engage and connect people around the world in support of freedom and democracy." Television and Radio Martí were created to promote freedom and democracy by providing the people of Cuba with objective news and information programming.

The Soros broadcast focused on his efforts to cripple sovereign governments in Latin America. Judicial Watch was cited as a source because it [investigated](#) State Department funding of Soros groups in Colombia and published a [report](#) on Soros' initiatives to advance a radical globalist agenda in Guatemala. Judicial Watch also released a [special report](#) documenting the financial and staffing nexus between Soros' Open Society Foundations (OSF) and the U.S. government. In that document, Judicial Watch connects the dots between U.S.-funded entities and OSF affiliates to further the Hungarian-born philanthropist's agenda seeking to destabilize legitimate governments, erase national borders, target conservative politicians, finance civil unrest, subvert institutions of higher education, and orchestrate refugee crises for political gain. A few years ago Judicial Watch [exposed](#) a scheme in which the U.S. government spent millions of dollars to destabilize the democratically elected, center-right government in Macedonia by colluding with Soros' OSF.

More than five months after the Spanish-language Soros broadcast aired on Television Martí, the segment caught the eye of disgraced New Jersey Senator Bob Menendez. In an October 31, 2018 [letter](#) to Lansing, the senator orders an immediate investigation into the Soros broadcast as well as an audit "on patterns of unethical and unprofessional reporting" at OCB. Menendez also smears Judicial Watch, stating that the Soros segment had "no credible sourcing" and "occasionally cites only a fringe website." Lansing uses similar language in a mainstream newspaper [article](#) about the recent Martí firings over the Soros video. "The person developing the Soros story was using Judicial Watch as a source as I understand it — the story was not only poorly sourced, it relied heavily on one less-than-credible source," Lansing says in the article, which states that "Soros has emerged as a leading boogeyman on the right."

Menendez, who serves on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee despite his sordid history, blocked President Trump's nomination last year to replace Lansing as USAGM chief. A few years ago, Menendez was [charged](#) with federal bribery and corruption stemming from his relationship with a crooked south Florida eye doctor that lavished him with cash, gifts and trips in exchange for political favors. The eye doctor, Salomon Melgen, got convicted of stealing \$73 million from Medicare and was sentenced to [17 years in prison](#). Menendez got off because jurors were unable to reach a verdict and his trial ended in mistrial. His colleagues on the Senate Ethics Committee determined that the veteran lawmaker not only violated senate rules, but also federal law and applicable standards of conduct. In a public [letter](#) of admonition, the committee writes that over a six-year period Menendez knowingly and repeatedly accepted gifts of significant value from Melgen in violation of senate rules and federal law. "Additionally, while accepting these gifts, you used your position as a Member of the Senate to advance Dr. Melgen's personal and business interests," the committee writes.

Menendez has been embroiled in other corruption schemes throughout his political career and Judicial Watch has served as a credible source in uncovering them. As far back as 2007, Menendez was [investigated](#) by a federal grand jury for illegally steering lobbying business to his former chief of staff Kay LiCausi, with whom he was also romantically linked. In just a few years, her firm reported \$1.3 million in business with nearly \$300,000 coming from a New Jersey medical center that was later awarded government funding thanks to a push from her [former boss](#) and lover.

In 2010, Menendez and his colleague in corruption, New Jersey Democrat Frank Lautenberg, allocated [\\$8 million](#) for a public walkway and park space adjacent to upscale, waterfront condos built by a developer whose executives donated generously to their political campaigns. Perhaps not so coincidentally, the developer's Washington D.C. lobbyist was a longtime senior aide to Menendez. The senator was also embroiled in a [hooker scandal](#) in the Dominican Republic with his incarcerated eye doctor pal and he hired an [illegal immigrant sex offender](#) to work in his senate office.

This is the muck of The Swamp. It stinks.

Until next week,

□

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton Goes on the Chris Plante Show

August 10, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "the Chris Plante Show" on WMAL to discuss FBI payments to Christopher Steele and Judicial Watch's lawsuit for communications between Steele, Bruce Ohr, and Fusion GPS.

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### Tom Fitton on NRA TV: Obama ATF Tried to Do 'End-Run' Around 2nd Amendment by Banning Ammo

October 10, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "Cam and Co." on NRA TV to discuss the ATF's attempt to ban AR-15 ammunition under the Obama administration—and Judicial Watch's litigation efforts to obtain records on the measure.

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**From:** Tom Fitton <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Friday, April 05, 2019 7:57 PM EDT

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: Judicial Watch Sues for Anti-Trump Coup Docs

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INSIDE JW

## Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: Judicial Watch Sues for Anti-Trump Coup Docs

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### Obama State Dept Conspiracy against Trump?

Victoria Nuland, President Obama's assistant secretary of state for European and Eurasian Affairs from [September 2013](#) until [January 2017](#), has been linked to the notorious anti-Trump dossier fabricated by Hillary Clinton's opposition research firm.

The author of the dossier, Christopher Steele, [reportedly](#) had developed long-standing relationships with senior State Department officials, including Nuland. "Between 2014 and 2016, Steele authored more than a hundred reports on Russia and Ukraine. These were written for a private client but shared widely within the State Department and sent up to Secretary of State John Kerry and to Assistant Secretary of State Victoria Nuland, who was in charge of the U.S. response to the Ukraine crisis."

To understand better how the dossier's spurious charges were spread around the Obama administration, we have filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the U.S. Department of State for communications between Nuland and employees of Fusion GPS, as well as top ranking Department of Justice, FBI, and State Department officials.

We sued because the State Department failed to respond to our November 1, 2018, FOIA request ([Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of State](#) (No. 1:19-cv-00574)). We are seeking:

Any and all records of communication between Ambassador Victoria Nuland and any of the following individuals between January 1, 2016, and January 25, 2017:

Professor Joseph Mifsud  
Mr. Christopher Steele  
Mr. Glenn Simpson  
Mrs. Nellie Ohr  
Former CIA Director John Brennan  
Former Undersecretary of State Patrick Kennedy  
Former Attorney General Loretta Lynch  
Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein  
Former Acting Attorney General Sally Yates  
Former Assistant Attorney General John P. Carlin  
Former Deputy Assistant Attorney General George Toscas  
Former DOJ Official David Laufman  
Former Homeland Security Advisor Lisa Monaco

Former Associate Deputy Attorney General Bruce Ohr  
Former FBI Director James Comey  
Former FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe  
Former FBI Agent Peter Strzok  
FBI Attorney Lisa Page  
FBI Attorney James Baker  
Former FBI Chief of Staff James Rybicki  
FBI Assistant Director Edward William Priestap  
Former FBI Agent John Giacalone  
Former FBI Agent Michael Steinbach  
Former FBI Agent Josh Campbell

On February 4, 2018, in an [interview](#) on CBS' *Face the Nation*, Nuland stated that she had been given details of the anti-Trump dossier directly from Christopher Steele, which she then referred to the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

[Steele] passed two to four pages of short points of what he was finding. And our immediate reaction to that was, this is not in our purview. This needs to go to the FBI if there is any concern here that one candidate or the election as a whole might be influenced by the Russian Federation. That's something for the FBI to investigate. And that was our reaction when we saw this. It's not our – our – we can't evaluate this.

Nuland [reportedly](#) "green lit" the initial meeting about the anti-Trump dossier between Christopher Steele and FBI agent Michael Gaeta. Quoting from David Corn and Michael Isikoff's book *Russian Roulette*, "The FBI checked with Victoria Nuland's office at the State Department: Do you support this meeting? Nuland, having found Steele's reports on Ukraine to have been generally credible, gave the green light."

We intend to find out how far the Deep State was willing to go in their effort to discredit then-candidate Donald Trump. There clearly was an Obama administration no-holds-barred attempt to clear the path to the presidency for Hillary Clinton. Our FOIA lawsuits have already shown the Obama State Department was corruptly targeting President Trump.

We already exposed elements of the plot when we released [42 pages](#) of heavily redacted State Department documents containing classified information that was provided to Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD), top Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and outspoken critic of President Donald Trump. The documents show Russian political interference in elections and politics in countries across Europe.

And then we [released](#) more heavily redacted State documents showing classified information was desperately sent to multiple U.S. Senators by the Obama administration immediately prior to President Donald Trump's inauguration. The documents reveal that among those receiving the classified documents were Sen. Mark Warner (D-VA), Sen. Ben Cardin (D-MD), and Sen. Robert Corker (R-TN).

□

### **Judicial Watch Sues for Obama/Deep State Russia Hoax Docs**

Top Obama officials in the Justice Department and the FBI declared that Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election was the reason for investigating candidate and then President Donald Trump.

We know what they were leaking to their allied anti-Trump media friends, but what were they telling *each other* about this Russian business? We'd like to know.

We just filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the Justice Department for records of communications from top Obama and Deep State FBI and DOJ officials about possible Russian interference in the 2016 U.S. presidential campaign.

We sued after the DOJ failed to respond adequately to a May 21, 2018, FOIA request ([Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of](#)

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[Justice](#) (No. 1:19-cv-00726)). We want:

All records of internal DOJ communications, including emails (whether on gov or non-.gov email accounts), text messages or instant chats, of officials in the offices of the Attorney General and Deputy Attorney General regarding possible Russian involvement and/or interference in the 2016 U.S. presidential campaign.

Also, on May 21, 2018, we submitted a FOIA request to the FBI seeking similar information:

All records of internal FBI communications, including emails (whether on gov or non-.gov email accounts), text messages or instant chats, of officials in the offices of the FBI Director, FBI Deputy Director and Office of General Counsel regarding possible Russian involvement and/or interference in the 2016 US presidential campaign.

The time frame for both requests is January 2016 through May 2017.

In July 2018, the DOJ claimed that it needed additional time to respond to our request but has since been unresponsive. The DOJ's answer to us is due April 21, 2019.

The FBI asserted in June 2018 that all records responsive to the request were exempt from disclosure, claiming that release would result in interference with law enforcement proceedings.

This is the latest FOIA lawsuit in our [in-depth investigation](#) regarding the FBI's involvement in the Russian investigation. Our extensive investigation includes discovering information on the Clinton funded anti-Trump dossier and its use to obtain FISA warrants in order to spy on the Trump campaign; politically biased messages against President Trump between former FBI officials Peter Strzok and Lisa Page; the leaking of former FBI Director Comey's memos; and the relationship between FBI official Bruce Ohr, his wife Nellie Ohr and Fusion GPS.

You and all Americans deserve to know the truth about what the corrupt DOJ and FBI leaders were saying when they were ginning up the bogus Russia investigation. It's no wonder the DOJ and FBI are stonewalling. Once again, we are in the lead in investigating the worst corruption scandal in American history – the abusive targeting of President Trump by the Obama administration and the Deep State.

### **How Did CNN Know Muller Special Counsel Would Raid Roger Stone's House?**

This week, members of Robert Mueller's special counsel team are [leaking](#) to the press because they aren't happy with Attorney General Barr's summary of the special counsel report. Did the Mueller operation just begin illegally leaking just a few days ago? I think not.

This is why we just filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the Justice Department to find other potential leaks. We're focused on records of the planning and preparation of the raid of the home of former Trump campaign aide Stone.

Importantly, we want to see any communications between Special Counsel Robert Mueller's Office, the FBI and CNN about the raid ([Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice](#) (No. 1:19-cv-00795)).

We sued after the Special Counsel's Office failed to respond to our FOIA request on January 25, 2019, and the FBI failed to respond to two separate FOIA requests on January 25, 2019, and February 1, 2019.

- The January 2019 FOIA request to the Special Counsel's Office sought all records of communications between SCO officials – and representatives CNN – regarding the January 25, 2019, arrest of Stone. We also asked for all records of communications between SCO officials or people acting on their behalf communicating with CNN regarding the arrest of Stone.
- The January 2019 FOIA request to the FBI sought all records of communications from government or commercial sources between officials in the offices of the FBI Director, FBI Deputy Director, Office of General Counsel, Office of Public Affairs, and/or the FBI Miami Field Office – and representatives of CNN – regarding Stone's arrest.

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- The February 2019 FOIA request to the FBI sought all planning materials used in preparation arrest and raid, as well as communications between the FBI Director, Deputy Director, Director's Chief of Staff, and Executive Assistant Director for the Criminal Division. We also asked for all records of communications between the Special Agent in Charge of the Miami Field Office regarding the arrest and/or raid on the home of Roger Stone.

Our FOIA request and subsequent lawsuit were in part prompted by the extraordinary and [exclusive video](#) access to the raid and arrest of Stone obtained by CNN on January 25, 2019. Questioned about the extraordinary early morning access, CNN [claimed](#) it was “the product of good instincts, some key clues, more than a year of observing comings [sic] at the DC federal courthouse and the special counsel’s office – and a little luck on the timing.”

Later in the day, however, [Stone](#) told Fox News’ Tucker Carlson that CNN was aware of his arrest even before his own lawyer. “It’s disconcerting that CNN was aware that I would be arrested before my lawyers were informed. So, that’s disturbing.” And during his February 8, 2019, testimony before the House Judiciary Committee, former Acting Attorney General Matthew [Whitaker](#) said, “It was deeply concerning to me as to how CNN found out about that.”

Our FOIA filing was a simple request for information about any leaks to CNN regarding the controversial raid and arrest of Roger Stone. That we’re being stonewalled suggests that someone has something to hide. We are investigating the investigators, and it’s time for them to come clean.

We recently sent [an official complaint](#) to the Justice Department’s Office of Inspector General (IG) calling for investigations into leaks of information about Special Counsel Robert Mueller’s investigation. The complaint asks for an investigation of any leaks to CNN about the controversial raid on the home of Roger Stone and for leaks to *BuzzFeed* suggesting that President Trump directed Michael Cohen to lie to Congress.

Until next week ...

▫

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: A DOJ Spying Investigation would be a Win for the Rule of Law

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Fox and Friends” on the Fox News Channel to discuss President Trump’s request for a DOJ probe into whether the FBI infiltrated his campaign.

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Chris Farrell: FBI’s Strzok was Incredibly Disingenuous During Testimony

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000451

JW Director of Investigations and Research Chris Farrell appeared on “Lou Dobbs Tonight” on the Fox Business Network to discuss President Trump’s rally in North Dakota and FBI official Peter Strzok’s testimony on Capitol Hill.

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**From:** Tom Fitton <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 08, 2019 6:08 PM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: JW Exposes Another Sanctuary City

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INSIDE JW

## Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: JW Exposes Another Sanctuary City

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### The Continuing Scandal at the Los Angeles Veterans Affairs Office

You have followed our extensive [coverage](#) of Veterans Affairs officials in Los Angeles who are blatantly ignoring the needs of veterans and appear to be running some kind of business out of their offices. Despite our lawsuits, the outrages continue, as our *Corruption Chronicles* blog [reports](#).

The Los Angeles Veterans Affairs (VA) facility that illegally rents its sprawling grounds to institutions that don't serve veterans just evicted several groups dedicated to veterans, including a nonprofit that for decades has comforted dying vets and another that helps those who are disabled. While the VA gave the volunteer organizations the boot without offering an explanation, it continues housing a parking lot for nearby upscale shops, a university baseball stadium, a dog park for the professional dog walkers of affluent residents, and athletic fields for a fancy prep school. It marks the latest of several scandals involving the misuse of this VA property, where a top official [pleaded guilty](#) to multiple felonies last year for taking bribes from a parking lot operator that defrauded the agency out of millions.

This month at least five established nonprofits dedicated to providing veterans with therapeutic activities, counseling and other valuable survival skills have been evicted while private businesses that don't benefit vets remain. The Jewish War Veterans is among the organizations that just got kicked out along with Twilight Brigade, the Disabled American Veterans, Vet-to-Vet and the Association for Parrot C.A.R.E., which provides therapeutic activities for vets at its parrot sanctuary. A local newspaper [reported](#) the latest travesty at the southern California VA this week, but Judicial Watch has for years investigated, sued and obtained government documents involving the VA's illegal use of this parcel.

The 338-acre property in West Los Angeles, which includes the National Veterans Park and Veterans Home, was deeded to the federal government in 1888 for the specific purpose of caring for disabled veterans. Thousands of disabled veterans once lived on the grounds, which also had churches, theaters, a library and post office. In the 1960s and 1970s the [VA quietly closed the facilities](#), according to the American Legion, and ousted mentally disabled veterans. In recent years, the property has been used for many causes unrelated to veterans. Among them is a stadium for the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) baseball team, an athletic complex for a nearby private high school, laundry facilities for a local hotel, storage and maintenance of production sets for 20th Century Fox Television, the Brentwood Theatre, soccer practice and match fields for a private girls' soccer club, a dog park, and a farmer's market.

For nearly a decade a group called the Old Veterans Guard has filed complaints against rampant corruption at the Los Angeles campus, specifically for abusing and misappropriating VA property. The group assembled weekly and on Memorial Day to protest the VA's failure to make full use of the facility to benefit veterans, particularly those who are

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homeless. The government retaliated by sending VA police to harass and intimidate them at weekly rallies. One of the group's leaders, an elderly Army vet named Robert Rosebrock, got [criminally charged](#) for posting a pair of four-by-six-inch American Flags on the outside fence of the Los Angeles VA on Memorial Day in 2016. The fence is part of the "Great Lawn Gate" and marks the entrance to the Los Angeles National Veterans Park. Judicial Watch represented Rosebrock in the federal case, which was tried in U.S. District Court for the Central District of California. The court eventually ruled that Rosebrock was [not guilty](#) of violating federal law for displaying the flags above the VA fence.

Judicial Watch [sued](#) the VA Police and other agency officials for violating Rosebrock's and his fellow protestors' Constitutional rights. Judicial Watch has also [sued](#) the VA twice for documents related to the non-veteran use of the Los Angeles facility and obtained [records](#) that show the VA paid private businesses hundreds of thousands of dollars to reimburse them for terminating unlawful lease agreements. A 2011 [lawsuit](#) accusing the VA of misusing the Los Angeles grounds and illegally leasing the land forced the agency to make changes. As part of a settlement, the VA [announced](#) that it would dedicate the West L.A. campus to "serving veterans in need" by, among other things, designing a plan to help end homelessness among the county's veterans. The legal settlement also compelled the VA to terminate leases with private businesses that were never supposed to be there in the first place. The records obtained by Judicial Watch reveal that the VA paid Twentieth Century Fox Television \$435,000 and a construction company building an illegal amphitheater on the north side of the grounds \$287,318. The television studio used 72,160 square feet of VA land for parking, storage and maintenance of production sets.

Just a few months ago a [federal audit](#) exposed rampant fraud and corruption involving the illicit land sharing agreements made by crooked VA officials in Los Angeles. Judicial Watch launched an investigation into the deals and has three Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests pending.

This is a classic case of a bureaucracy busily serving its own needs and perpetuating itself to the detriment of the people it was created to help.

□

### San Diego Plans to Hire "Immigration Affairs Manager"

The immigration crisis can be handled through enforcing the rule of law or kow-towing to open borders lobby with lawless sanctuary polices and related spending. San Diego chose the latter path. Consider the [latest](#), again, from our *Corruption Chronicles* blog:

The Republican mayor of the nation's eighth largest city is dedicating [\\$70,000](#) to hire an "immigrant affairs manager" that will help facilitate a successful integration of refugees and immigrants. The goal is to implement the orders of a community-written blueprint that aims to welcome immigrants as they transition into the city. Known as the "[Strategic Plan on Immigrant and Refugee Integration](#)" the document was created with the input of open borders groups, residents and a "cross-sector steering committee" that direct city officials to skirt federal law.

It is unclear how much taxpayer money California's second largest city, San Diego, will end up spending to accommodate immigrants. Mayor Kevin Faulconer [announced](#) the new \$70,000 position this week at a press conference on the grounds of a local [museum](#) dedicated to celebrating America's cultural diversity. "The preservation and presentation of the immigrant experience in the United States is our central commitment," according to the museum's website. At the press conference Faulconer, who previously served on the city council, said this: "Immigrants from around the globe help define our city. San Diego has long been a destination for people in search of opportunity, refugees looking to rebuild their lives, and new citizens who are proud to call America home. San Diego's economy, workforce and future growth are connected to our ability to welcome new Americans into our community."

Let's take a look at the proposals in the integration blueprint that the city's new immigrant affairs manager is supposed to help implement. They include creating economic opportunity for immigrants, tweaking education to accommodate them, granting them inclusive access to taxpayer-funded services, improving civic engagement, and safe communities. The city is supposed to facilitate the career advancement of immigrants through job placement, rights protection, and inclusive recruitment. This is to include promoting immigrant entrepreneurship, financial literacy

among newcomers, and the reduction of barriers toward home ownership. Not sure how that's going to happen since San Diego is one of the nation's [most expensive cities](#) to live in with among the highest home prices.

The plan also calls on the city to enhance a multicultural curriculum in kindergarten through high school for "newcomer students" and remove barriers to existing education programs. That means developing a curriculum that includes ethnic studies, immigration history, cross-cultural competency, and anti-bias and tolerance education. The integration blueprint also demands free tuition at public colleges for immigrants. Inclusive access means the city must expand language access to ensure public services are "user-friendly and culturally-responsive." To promote civic engagement among immigrants, San Diego officials must develop immigrant and refugee leaders and increase naturalizations and civic participation among new and aspiring Americans. To create a safe community for immigrants, law enforcement must be properly trained to serve "multilingual and multicultural communities," the document states.

Under the plan, consular identifications, common among illegal immigrants from Mexico, will be accepted across city agencies. Other forms of "foreign citizenship documents" will also be accepted, according to the recommendations. Local police and all city officials will also shield illegal immigrants from federal authorities. This appears as advocating for policies that help protect and advance the rights of immigrants and refugees at the county, state and federal level. "Oppose policies that target or profile immigrants and endanger their status," the strategic plan states, referring to deportation. The list of demands goes on and on and it appears elected officials in San Diego plan to meet them. "It's important our communities here in San Diego know they don't stand alone," said City Council President Georgette Gomez. "Our policies and actions must reflect a city that is welcoming. I look forward to working with the Mayor and my colleagues to help implement the plan."

Do we all get to choose which laws we will obey?

Until next week ...

▣  
Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: "Netflix Doubles down in support of Obama Corruption"

Former national security adviser and U.S. Ambassador Susan Rice now has a new role on Netflix's board of directors, appearing to follow her former boss who is in reported "advanced negotiations" to create a series of shows with the streaming giant. The company made the announcement on Wednesday, with Netflix co-founder and CEO Reed Hastings praising her prior work on intelligence issues for former President Barack Obama.

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## Tom Fitton on NRA TV: Obama ATF Tried to Do ‘End-Run’ Around 2nd Amendment by Banning Ammo

October 10, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Cam and Co.” on NRA TV to discuss the ATF’s attempt to ban AR-15 ammunition under the Obama administration—and Judicial Watch’s litigation efforts to obtain records on the measure.

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**From:** Tom Fitton <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Friday, March 22, 2019 6:13 PM EDT

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: JW Uncovers Classified Info on Clinton Email Server

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INSIDE JW

## Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: JW Uncovers Classified Info on Clinton Email Server

### Judicial Watch Uncovers More Classified Emails in Hillary Clinton's Unsecure Email System

Hillary Clinton repeatedly stated that the 55,000 pages of documents she turned over to the State Department in December 2014 included all of her work-related emails. She even declared under penalty of perjury in 2015 that she had "directed that all my emails on clintonemail.com in my custody that were or are potentially federal records be provided to the Department of State, and on information and belief, this has been done."

It wasn't, of course.

Two years later, in 2017, the FBI uncovered [72,000 pages](#) of documents Clinton attempted to delete or did not otherwise disclose. Until the court intervened, the State Department had been slow-walking the release of those documents at a rate that would have required that we and the American people wait until at least 2020 to see it all.

We have now received [756 pages](#) of newly uncovered emails that were among the materials Clinton tried to delete or destroy, several of which were classified and were transmitted over her unsecure, non-"[state.gov](#)" email system.

The production of documents in [this case](#) is now concluded with the FBI being only able to recover or find approximately 5,000 of the 33,000 government emails Hillary Clinton took and tried to destroy.

We obtained these emails in response to our Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) [lawsuit](#) we filed on May 6, 2015, after the State Department failed to respond to our March 4, 2015, FOIA request ([Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of State](#) (No. 1:15-cv-00687)) seeking:

All emails sent and received by former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in her official capacity as Secretary of State, as well as all emails by other State Department employees to Secretary Clinton regarding her non-"[state.gov](#)" email address.

This final batch of emails includes five new classified emails and communications with controversial figures Lanny Davis and Sidney Blumenthal.

Here is some of what was revealed in these documents.

On April 27, 2011, former British Prime Minister Tony Blair sent [classified information](#) discussing Palestinian issues to Clinton's personal unsecure email account.

On May 19, 2011, Blair again sent [classified information](#) to Clinton's personal unsecure email account discussing a "speech."

A [classified email](#) exchange between Blair and Clinton took place from January 16, 2009, (while George W. Bush was still president) and January 24, 2009. The subject line is "Re: Gaza." Blair on January 16, 2009, relayed information he learned from Middle East leaders and noted that he wanted to get something "resolved before Tuesday" (when Obama would be sworn in as president). Clinton responded to Blair on January 19, 2009, writing "Tony – We are finally moving and I am looking forward to talking w you as soon as I'm confirmed, tomorrow or Wednesday at the latest. Your emails are very helpful so pls continue to use this address," [hr15@att.blackberry.net](mailto:hr15@att.blackberry.net). Blair followed up by saying "It would be great if we could talk before any announcements are made."

Retired Army Gen. Jack Keane sent Clinton [classified information](#), apparently during early 2009. The subject line of the email is redacted, but the text appears to show a discussion on information about Iraq.

In a September 2, 2010, email exchange [marked classified](#), longtime Clinton confidante Lanny Davis tells Secretary Clinton that he could serve as a private channel for her to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, saying he had a "private and highly trusted communication line, unofficial and personal, to PM N[etanyahu]." Davis goes on to say "[N]o one on the planet (other than your wonderful husband) can get this done as well as you...." Secretary Clinton responds with classified information, saying "I will reach out to you directly and hope you will continue to do the same w me. The most important issue now is [Redacted B1]."

In a September 18, 2010, [email](#), Davis emails Clinton to tell her that "As soon as I wrote last email, I reverted to my old role as your crisis manager and worrier about you, read the word 'optics' I suddenly felt - oops. I am registered under FARA for one or more foreign governments or businesses. I don't think it would look right. I want to avoid any even slight chance of misperception." Clinton replies, "Thx for looking out for me, my friend. I'll tell Cheryl to stand down." Davis replied, "100% off-the-record."

An email with the subject line "[Clinton-Ivanishvili Meeting](#)" shows a meeting with pro-Putin, Georgian billionaire Bidzina Ivanishvili, who was [reportedly](#) involved in a Russia-rigged election for president of the Republic of Georgia. On May 29, 2012, longtime Clinton political operative Craig T. Smith emailed Cheryl Mills, asking if a meeting between Secretary Clinton and Georgian billionaire Bidzina Ivanishvili was "happening," saying: "Would be a good thing if it can work out." Mills tells Smith she'll revert and forwards the email to Jake Sullivan, Human Abedin and Lona Valmoro, asking them if they were setting up the meeting, noting that it involved "meeting with the opposition" and asking what she could tell Smith. Valmoro responds that the meeting with Ivanishvili was "on the schedule."

An undated [email](#) from former Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott to Clinton discusses that "VP" Joe Biden was "thinking seriously about a [Biden-Putin Commission](#)."

The documents reveal that Clinton had been assigned an official [government email address](#) with which she could have conducted government business, [clintonhr@state.gov](mailto:clintonhr@state.gov). She also [reportedly](#) had additional government addresses at her disposal: [SMSGS@state.gov](mailto:SMSGS@state.gov) and [SSHRC@state.gov](mailto:SSHRC@state.gov), neither of which were configured to send or receive emails.

The documents also include [an email](#) to [Tamera Luzzatto](#), former chief of staff during Clinton's tenure as U.S. Senator for New York. Clinton talks about getting "a secure computer set up soon."

Tamera--this is my new address, but, pls know, I cannot check it during the day unless I leave my office. I hope to have a secure computer set up soon to be able to get email during the workday. Much love, H.

On October 29, 2009, a Clinton Foundation employee and close Clinton adviser, [Sid Blumenthal](#), forwarded [a proposal](#) for a commercial contract related to improvised explosive devices (IEDs) from retired CIA officer-turned-contractor Gary Berntsen, to Clinton (copying Cheryl Mills), saying that Berntsen had been "unable to break through the bureaucracy with it." Mills then forwarded the email to Jake Sullivan. Blumenthal noted that "Cody [Shearer] and I are following up." Blumenthal and Shearer were [both implicated](#) in the creation of the Obama administration's anti-Trump Russia "collusion" counterintelligence operation by providing "reports" relating to Trump-Russia collusion to the U.S. Government.

On January 29, 2009, Blumenthal [emailed](#) Secretary Clinton a memo he titled “Good Cop, Bad Cop,” in which Blumenthal informs Clinton that his sources tell him that an “attack” on the appointment by Obama of former Sen. George Mitchell as Special Envoy to the Middle East was “coordinated by Jewish institutional leaders and carefully scripted.” Also cited is Mitchell’s “Arab descent” as making him “politically vulnerable.”

Blumenthal told Clinton that any conversations she had with Netanyahu “flows directly and instantly back to top (U.S.) Jewish leadership.” Further on in his memo, Blumenthal says that Netanyahu and “Jewish leadership” should “be expected to use political means, including outsourcing personal attacks” to counter Obama administration moves and said Netanyahu was “deeply connected to political networks in the U.S. - media, Jewish groups, Republican leaders, and right-wing Christian” organizations. To provide a “heat shield” from Netanyahu’s attacks, Blumenthal advises Clinton that Obama should hire a “bad cop” who is “organically tied to the President” and a “political appointee, Jewish, considered a true friend of Israel...” Clinton responded by saying, “Thanks for these. And I will call you in the next few days.”

An October 20, 2012, [email exchange](#) between top State Department and Clinton Foundation officials discussed arrangements for Bill and Hillary’s trip to Haiti. That trip focused on the [opening of the Caracol Industrial Park](#), funded by a \$300 million+ grant from USAID. The Caracol Park came to be seen as [a hugely wasteful disaster](#) that was supposed to create 65,000 jobs for Haitians but as of January 2015 [only produced 4,500](#).

On January 25, 2009, Chelsea Clinton’s high school friend Nicole Davison (now [Nicole Davison Fox](#)), made a [hiring recommendation](#) to Secretary Clinton for the State Department. Clinton forwarded Davison’s recommendation on to Cheryl Mills, telling Mills to “follow up” on the “wonderful recommendation.” Mills replied, “K.”

Maggie Williams, campaign manager of Clinton’s failed 2008 presidential bid, [forwarded to Clinton](#) a note sent to her by then-managing partner of the Gallup Organization, which said that “Gallup Polls suggest Obama’s plan to expedite withdrawal from Iraq could help improve some residents’ opinion [referring to Iraqis’ opinion of US leadership.]” Williams proposed to Secretary Clinton sending a group of high-level State Department officials to Gallup “for a presentation”, including Jack Lew, Jim Steinberg, Cheryl Mills and Lissa Muscatine. Williams would later suggest adding Jake Sullivan and Anne-Marie Slaughter to the Gallup presentation.

On February 18, 2009, the chairman of telecom company Centurylink, Bill Owens, [emailed](#) Clinton (copying Abedin) asking if he could get a meeting with the secretary during her upcoming trip to China. Abedin responded, saying that she was talking to Owens’ assistant to “arrange for the two of you to visit for a few minutes” during Clinton’s trip. Owens had been [appointed Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs](#) of Staff in 1994 by President Bill Clinton. After retiring from the Navy in 1996, he became chairman of defense contractor SAIC.

In a January 3, 2011-March 1, 2011, [email thread](#), Susanne Helmsley, a staffer at the World Economic Forum (ie, Davos) emailed [leftist Christian writer-activist Jim Wallis](#) to inform him that former British PM Gordon Brown would not be invited to the upcoming Davos meeting, because “our policy (and this makes Davos distinctive) is to only invite people who are still in power.” She also noted that the “theme” of the upcoming Davos meeting would be “Shared Norms for the New Reality”, noting that “the discussions of values will be a major element in Davos, since norms are only sustainable if built on values.” Wallis mentions his prior partnership with Bangladeshi banker Mohammad Yunus, who would be charged the next year with [tax fraud and embezzling](#) from the bank he’d founded, Grameen Bank.

On [five occasions](#) Clinton’s secretary, Lauren Jiloty, sent Clinton’s sensitive daily itinerary to her on her unsecure email account.

On January 29, 2009, State Department official Ashley Yehl received a [Judicial Watch](#) press release from Associated Press reporter Matt Lee about a lawsuit we filed on behalf of State Department official David Rodearmel challenging Clinton’s appointment as Secretary of State. Yehl forwarded the email on to several other State people, who in turn forwarded it on to State’s Legal Office and official James Thessin. Thessin sent it along to Cheryl Mills who sent it on to Secretary Clinton, assuring Clinton that the Department of Justice would defend her against our lawsuit.



additional evidence adds to the urgency for the DOJ to finally undertake a complete and legitimate criminal investigation. Attorney General Barr should immediately order a new investigation of the Hillary Clinton email scandal.

□

### **Police: Attack on Tucker Carlson's Home Was 'Suspected Hate Crime'**

Tucker Carlson, the Fox News host, is an articulate and effective voice against the excesses of the Left, and so he has been under attack. On the evening of November 7, 2018, a mob descended on his home in the Washington, DC, area. He wasn't there, and his wife was so frightened that she called 9-1-1 and barricaded herself in a pantry.

Carlson [said](#) the mob rang his doorbell and broke his oak door, and one protester was reportedly caught on security video mentioning a pipe bomb.

We wanted to know more and sought the [police incident report](#) about the Antifa-linked group Smash Racism DC, which mobbed Carlson's home. We obtained the report in response to a DC Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request filed by our investigative team.

According to the report:

On the listed date, [Susie Carlson] heard loud banging and pounding on her front door. [Susie Carlson] went to investigate and saw a large group in front of her home. They had a bull horn and were chanting loudly. She retreated to a room in the rear of her home and summoned police. MPD arrived on scene and found a group of approximately 20 people. It was discovered that unknown persons spray painted an anarchy symbol on the driveway. There were also signs left on the vehicles parked in the driveway as well as a sign left on the front door of the home. The signs made reference to [Tucker Carlson's] political affiliation."

The report classifies the incident as a "suspected hate crime" with the "hate bias/motivation" being "anti-political." Also, the report says that six "hand-written posters" were seized as evidence. A handwritten note included with the report says that the "suspected group is Smash Racism DC."

Tucker Carlson told [The Washington Post](#) that the mob had blocked off both ends of his street and carried signs that listed his home address:

"Tucker Carlson, we are outside your home," one person could be heard saying in the since-deleted video. The person, using a bullhorn, accused Carlson of "promoting hate" and "an ideology that has led to thousands of people dying."

"We want you to know, we know where you sleep at night," the person concluded, before leading the group to chant, "Tucker Carlson, we will fight! We know where you sleep at night!"

\*\*\*

The group called Carlson a "racist scumbag" and demanded that he "leave town," according to posts on Twitter. A woman was also overheard in one of the deleted videos saying she wanted to "bring a pipe bomb" to his house, he said.

Tucker Carlson wasn't merely "targeted by protesters," as some media reported. Thanks to Judicial Watch, we know the disturbing truth: Tucker Carlson's family was terrorized by a mob of 20 people who vandalized his property.

### **Obama Judge Frees Illegal Alien Who Got License with Fake Doc**

The rule of law on immigration is suffering blow after blow thanks to coordinated legal assaults by the open borders crowd and political decision by activist judges.

Consider [this story](#) in our *Corruption Chronicles* blog.

It is not a crime for an illegal immigrant to use fake federal documents to obtain a legitimate state license, according to a remarkable ruling issued this week by an Obama-appointed judge in south Florida. The defendant, 38-year-old Rubman Ardon Chinchilla, was among 20 people arrested several months ago in a scheme that used bogus immigration documents in driver's license applications. The man who masterminded the operation, a naturalized U.S. citizen from Cuba, has been charged with fraud.

Chinchilla, a Honduran national, has lived illegally in the U.S. for decades, according to a local [newspaper report](#), and has three American-born children. He works as a roofer and lives in the Broward County city of Ft. Lauderdale. After getting busted using a phony version of a federal document known as an Order of Supervision to get a Florida license, he got indicted with two counts of violating federal law. The illegal immigrant's attorneys challenged the charges, asserting that the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles doesn't even allow driver's license applicants to use an Order of Supervision as proof of legal status in the U.S. In their argument they cited a case in which a California appeals court threw out the conviction of a Chinese man who got two driver's licenses while living in the U.S. commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

U.S. District Judge Beth Bloom, appointed to the bench in 2014, agreed and threw out the criminal charges against Chinchilla. Siding with the illegal alien's attorneys, Bloom proclaimed that there is no actual law allowing the federal Order of Supervision form to be used to prove "authorized stay in the United States."

The bizarre reasoning will allow others involved in the recent south Florida fake document sting to use the same argument to avoid justice. The local newspaper article cited earlier in this piece writes this: "It's a highly technical legal argument, but it's opening the door for the others arrested in the sting to beat their cases, and maybe even stay in the United States." Another illegal immigrant arrested along with Chinchilla, Jeovanny Gutierrez Nuñez, is already using Judge Bloom's decision to get his charges dropped. Federal prosecutors plan to appeal Chinchilla's case and his lawyers claim that if Bloom's ruling stands, it will allow the illegal alien to get legal papers because his record will remain clean and he has three U.S.-born kids.

This marks the second controversial ruling for Bloom in her short time on the federal bench. In December the judge determined that Broward County public schools and the Broward County Sheriff's Office had [no legal duty to protect students](#) during the February 2018 shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. Seventeen people were killed and 17 others were injured at the Parkland, Florida, school when a former student opened fire on the campus.

A lawsuit filed by 15 students named the district and sheriff's office among six defendants, along with school deputy Scot Peterson and a campus monitor. In the complaint, the students claimed their civil and due process rights were violated by the defendants' failure to protect them from school shooters. Bloom ruled the school district and county law enforcement agency had no constitutional duty to protect students who were not in custody. "The claim arises from the actions of [shooter Nikolas] Cruz, a third party, and not a state actor," she wrote in the decision. "Thus, the critical question the Court analyzes is whether defendants had a constitutional duty to protect plaintiffs from the actions of Cruz."

The Left's radical vision for our country is the end that it uses any means to achieve.

### **Justice Department Misconduct, the Chicago Way**

U.S. prosecutors are powerful, and they must be watched closely. If you're thinking of Robert Mueller and his hatchet man, Andrew Weissmann, you're correct. You would also be correct if you're thinking of Chicago's Tim Bass, [known as](#) "Badass Tim Bass."

This veteran prosecutor went after a Republican congressman a few years ago, and it looked like an airtight case, until certain discrepancies came to light, including Bass' personal ambitions. Our chief investigative reporter, Micah Morrison, has [the details](#).

Aaron Schock always has been an awesome character. At 23, he won a seat in the Illinois House of Representatives, becoming the youngest member in state history. At 27, he won a race for the Illinois 18<sup>th</sup> Congressional district, becoming the youngest member of Congress. He was a Republican star, a prodigious fundraiser, [raising more than](#)

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[\\$11 million](#) for his congressional campaigns. An exercise aficionado, he once appeared on [the cover](#) of Men's Health magazine. He got in trouble with the Washington Post for [decorating his DC office](#) in the luxurious style of the British period drama, "Downton Abbey."

That's when it all came crashing down. Washington had a good laugh over Schock's cover shoot and interior decorating, but questions about improper spending mounted and in March 2015, he resigned from Congress. And there was nothing funny about the [federal indictment](#) that came twenty months later, a few days after the 2016 election. The U.S. Attorney for the Central District of Illinois charged Schock with 24 counts of wire fraud, mail fraud, theft, false statements and filing false documents.

The indictment, [reported the Post](#), "alleged that the former congressman from Peoria, Ill., reimbursed himself for 150,000 miles he never drove, bought a new 2015 Chevrolet Tahoe for his exclusive use with campaign committee funds, and reimbursed himself with congressional funds for camera equipment purchased for himself and his personal photographer. It alleges that Schock used government and campaign money to take a private plane with a group to Chicago for a Bears football game, and remodeled his Illinois apartment and Capitol Hill office — paying those who did the thousands of dollars' worth of work at least in part from government and campaign funds."

The total tab for the misdeeds: \$100,000.

Schock was, well, shocked. "I simply cannot believe it has come to this," he said in a statement after the indictment. He said his campaign team "might have made errors among a few of the thousands and thousands of financial transactions we conducted, but they were honest mistakes—no one intended to break any laws."

Schock hired a powerhouse lawyer, former deputy attorney general George Terwilliger, who hit back at the government. The Schock indictment, Terwilliger said, was "just made-up allegations of criminal activity arising from unintentional administrative errors."

But something more sinister was at work as well, Terwilliger suggested. This was a case of prosecutorial misconduct and government overreach. "Criminalizing a handful of administrative mistakes, a few of the thousands of transactions from Aaron's 6 years in office, to charge Mr. Schock two days after a national election has all the appearances of a politically calculated ambush," Terwilliger said.

The case soon went south. Erroneous expense reimbursements were not crimes, Terwilliger argued, and Schock had admitted his errors immediately on learning of them. Rumors circulated that prosecutors were probing whether Schock was [gay](#). Investigators may have [illegally seized documents](#) from Schock's congressional office. The trial judge in the case was removed after improper communications with a member of the U.S. attorney's office. The lead prosecutor in the case, Tim Bass, [stepped aside](#) in July.

It turns out that Bass harbored political ambitions of his own. Bass had once said it would be an "honor and privilege to be considered to lead the U.S. Attorney's Office in the future," [according to the Chicago Tribune](#), and his ambitions for the post were an [open secret](#) in Illinois.

Bass's role in the case appears to have been the last straw. The Justice Department was forced to take action. The case was removed from the Central District of Illinois and moved to Chicago. Soon, the [charges were dropped](#).

Schock told reporters that there was "no doubt" he had been targeted by Bass's office. "It became very obvious to all of us that he saw me as his ticket to stardom." Read George Terwilliger's analysis of the case [here](#).

Aaron Schock's ordeal is over. But he would be within his rights to ask the question first posed by another Republican driven from public service by false charges and later cleared at trial. "Which office do I go to," [said former Labor Secretary Ray Donovan](#), "to get my reputation back?"

Always beware of, in Schock's attorney's [words](#), "flashy allegations in an indictment of what at bottom is a weak case." That has the ring of familiarity in the anti-Trump hysteria here in DC.

Until next week ...

□

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: A DOJ Spying Investigation would be a Win for the Rule of Law

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Fox and Friends” on the Fox News Channel to discuss President Trump’s request for a DOJ probe into whether the FBI infiltrated his campaign.

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### Tom Fitton Goes on the Chris Plante Show

August 10, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “the Chris Plante Show” on WMAL to discuss FBI payments to Christopher Steele and Judicial Watch’s lawsuit for communications between Steele, Bruce Ohr, and Fusion GPS.

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INSIDE JW

## Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: Mueller Report Exonerates President Trump

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### Mueller Never Had a Good-Faith Basis to Pursue President Trump

The fizzling out of the corrupt Mueller investigation is great victory for the rule of law and our constitutional republic. Here is the statement I issued in response Attorney General Barr's [initial summary](#) of the special counsel's report.

The long, national nightmare is over and President Trump has been vindicated. The corruptly-created and constitutionally abusive Mueller investigation failed to find any evidence to support the big lie that the Trump campaign colluded with the Russian government.

We're pleased that AG Barr rejected Mueller's attempt to smear President Trump with obstruction of justice innuendo by concluding that no such charges could be credibly sustained. Frankly, Mueller never had a valid basis upon which to investigate President Trump for obstruction of justice.

Let's be clear, neither Mueller, the Obama FBI, DOJ, CIA, State Department, nor the Deep State ever had a good-faith basis to pursue President Trump on Russia collusion. Russia collusion wasn't just a hoax, it was criminal abuse, which is why Judicial Watch has fought and will continue to fight for Russiagate documents in federal court.

The targeting of President Trump served to protect Hillary Clinton and her enablers/co-conspirators in Obama administration from prosecution. Attorney General Barr can begin restoring the credibility of the Justice Department by finally initiating a thorough investigation of the Clinton emails and related pay-to-play scandals and the abuses behind the targeting of President Trump.

Judicial Watch has long called for the shutdown of the Mueller special counsel operation and has pursued dozens of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuits in connection with the illicit targeting and other abuses of President Trump. Judicial Watch FOIA litigation exposed, for example:

- The [dossier-based](#) Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) warrant applications targeting President Trump
- FBI [payments](#) to Christopher Steele
- FBI [firing](#) of Steele
- Extensive DOJ (Ohr) [collusion](#) w/Steele, Simpson, Fusion GPS
- No [court hearings](#) by defrauded FISA courts before warrants were issued
- Anti-Trump bias by Mueller deputy [Andrew Weissmann](#)

As you would expect, the Democrats are refusing to back down from their collusion lies. As I told the media this week, we must demand accountability for this attack on the Republic. Judicial Watch, not Congress nor the corrupt media, remains

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the best path forward for getting the full truth about the effort to overthrow President Trump, which is the worst corruption scandal in American history.

□

## Did Deep State Cover Up Chinese Hack of Clinton Email System? Judicial Watch Sues to Find Out

Back in 2015, the Intelligence Community Inspector General (ICIG), an office under the Director of National Intelligence, discovered that Hillary Clinton's emails were [being sent](#) to a state-owned Chinese company.

Bells went off, and the ICIG sent an emissary to the FBI to meet with Peter Strzok, who was later removed from Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation and fired from the FBI after his bias against President Trump was revealed. The FBI was being run at time by James Comey.

As you might imagine, nothing happened.

We want to know what was discussed at this meeting, and we are suing the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) for details.

We sued after the ODNI failed to respond adequately to a July 13, 2018, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request ([Judicial Watch Inc. vs Office of the Director of National Intelligence](#) (No. 1:19-cv-00807)). We are seeking:

Any and all records regarding, concerning, or related to the meeting between Intelligence Community Inspector General (ICIG) official Frank Rucker, ICIG attorney Jeanette Macmillian, former Federal Bureau of Investigation Deputy Assistant Director Peter Strzok, and other[s] regarding security threats associated with the private e-mail server utilized by former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

This request includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Any and all reports, notes, briefing materials, presentations, or similar records created in preparation for, during, and/or pursuant to the meeting.
- Any and all related records of communication between any official, employee, or representative of the ICIG and any other individual or entity.

For purposes of clarification, the meeting in question was referenced by Rep. Louis Gohmert during the testimony of Mr. Strzok at a House of Representatives hearing on July 12, 2018.

Republican Rep. Louie Gohmert (R-TX) said during [a hearing](#) with FBI official Peter Strzok that the ICIG [reportedly](#) found an "anomaly on Hillary Clinton's emails going through their private server, and when they had done the forensic analysis, they found that her emails, every single one except four, over 30,000, were going to an address that was not on the distribution list. It was a compartmentalized bit of information that was sending it to an unauthorized source."

Gohmert said the ICIG presented the findings to Strzok, but that the FBI official did not do anything with the information.

Gohmert: Let me refresh your memory. The Intelligence Community Inspector General Chuck McCullough sent his investigator Frank Rucker along with an IGIC attorney Janette McMillan to brief you and Dean Chapelle and two other FBI personnel who I won't name at this time, about an anomaly they had found on Hillary Clinton's emails that were going to the private unauthorized server that you were supposed to be investigating?

Our lawsuit could further expose how anti-Trump activists like disgraced FBI official Peter Strzok bent over backwards to protect Hillary Clinton from having to answer for her national security crimes. The scandal of the illicit Trump spying is directly tied to the Deep State protection of Hillary Clinton.

We had [a separate lawsuit](#) against the ODNI that would have required it to conduct, as required by law, an assessment and prepare a report on how and whether Hillary Rodham Clinton's email practices as U.S. Secretary of State damaged national security.

Hillary Clinton was given full cover by the Deep State. Don't think the Deep State has given up.

### **What Were Obama's Spy Chiefs Telling the Media about Trump?**

President Obama's top spy chiefs appear to have been ringleaders in the illicit effort to overthrow President Trump. They enlisted the FBI, foreign spies, and the media in their efforts. I'm not at all surprised that they found a warm welcome at CNN.

Now we want to know the details of their connections to the network. We have filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) seeking records of communications between former Director of National Intelligence James Clapper, former CIA Director John Brennan and CNN around the time the Clinton-Democrat National Committee anti-Trump dossier was being pitched to key media outlets.

A House report detailed that Clapper leaked information regarding the dossier to CNN in January 2017. The former ODNI chief [signed on as an analyst](#) for CNN in August 2017.

We are also seeking records of communications between Clapper and Obama CIA Director John Brennan regarding the dossier, which was authored by former British spy and FBI payee Christopher Steele.

We sued in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia ([Judicial Watch v. Office of the Director of National Intelligence and Central Intelligence Agency](#) (No. 1:19-cv-00776)) after the agencies failed to respond to our April 23, 2018, FOIA request seeking:

All records of communication, including emails (whether on .gov or non-.gov email accounts), text messages and instant chats, between officials in the office of the Director of National Intelligence, including but not limited to James Clapper, and employees, representatives and contractors of CNN.

The time frame for the records request is May 2016 through May 2017.

All records of communications between the office of the Director of Central Intelligence and representatives of CNN; DCI John Brennan and DNI James Clapper regarding the collection of memos known as the "Steele Dossier;" and between DCI John Brennan and DNI James Clapper regarding CNN.

All records of communication, including emails (whether on .gov or non-.gov email accounts), text messages and instant chats, between officials in the office of the Director of Central Intelligence, including but not limited to DCI John Brennan, and employees, representatives and contractors of CNN. The time frame for the requested records is May 2016 through May 2017.

All records of communication, including emails (whether on .gov or non-.gov email accounts), text messages and instant chats, between DCI John Brennan and DNI James Clapper regarding the collection of memos known as the "Steele Dossier". The time frame for records requested in this bullet item is May 2016 through January 2017.

All records of communication, including emails (whether on .gov or non-.gov email accounts), text messages and instant chats, between DCI John Brennan and DNI James Clapper regarding the news network CNN. The time frame for records requested in this bullet item is May 2016 through January 2017.

In a [March 2018, report](#) Republicans on the House Intelligence Committee exposed that:

"Former Director of National Intelligence James Clapper, now a CNN national security analyst, provided inconsistent testimony to the Committee about his contacts with the media, including CNN." And, "when questioned by the Committee ... Clapper admitted that he confirmed the existence of the dossier to the media."



Clapper later [admitted](#) he had discussed the Steele dossier with CNN's Jake Tapper and other journalists in early 2017, shortly before President Donald Trump's inauguration.

In a [January 10, 2017 report](#) with bylines from Tapper, Evan Perez, Jim Sciutto and Carl Bernstein, CNN first revealed that then-FBI Director James Comey had briefed then-President-elect Trump on the dossier's allegations.

The Intelligence Committee's report detailed that "Clapper subsequently [acknowledged](#) discussing the 'dossier with CNN journalist Jake Tapper,' and admitted that he might have spoken with other journalists about the same topic. Clapper's discussion with Tapper took place in 'early January 2017,' around the time [intelligence officials] briefed President Obama and President-elect Trump, on 'the Christopher Steele information.'"

Shortly after CNN's January 10, 2017, report, *BuzzFeed News* published the dossier in full.

The four CNN reporters were [awarded](#) the White House Correspondents' Association's Merriman Smith Award for their coverage of the dossier story.

Brennan, in an [interview with NBC News](#) on February 4, 2018, insisted that the Steele dossier "did not play any role whatsoever" in early intelligence assessments on alleged Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election.

Several subsequent reports strongly contradict Brennan's claim.

We are again in court trying to get the truth about the Obama gang's illegal leaks and conspiracy targeting President Trump. Clapper and Brennan were key proponents of the big lie, exposed by the Mueller report. President Trump did not collude with the Russians. Once again, our FOIA litigation is the best hope for getting full accountability on this attack on our constitutional republic.

Until next week ...

□

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: A DOJ Spying Investigation would be a Win for the Rule of Law

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "Fox and Friends" on the Fox News Channel to discuss President Trump's request for a DOJ probe into whether the FBI infiltrated his campaign.

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## Tom Fitton: The Deep State Cover is Beginning to End

On July 23, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Hannity” on the Fox News Channel to discuss mainstream media coverage of President Trump, the release of the FISA warrant applications, and the democrats calling the Helsinki Summit “treasonous.”

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**From:** Tom Fitton <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 01, 2019 5:52 PM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: New Lawsuit Against Deep State FBI

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INSIDE JW

## Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: New Lawsuit Against Deep State FBI

### New Judicial Watch Lawsuit for FBI Documents on Anti-Trump Collusion

Attorney James Baker had what DC considers a long and distinguished career at the Justice Department – his last position was general counsel of the FBI – until he got himself involved in the anti-Trump machinations of disgraced former Director James Comey and his co-conspirators.

As the FBI's top lawyer, Baker helped [secure](#) the notorious Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) warrant for Carter Page, as well as three renewals. He knew FISA: He was once [called](#) "Mr. FISA himself."

Now he's out of the DOJ and under criminal investigation.

And we have questions, too. We have filed a lawsuit against the Department of Justice for all records of his communication with anti-Trump dossier author Christopher Steele from January 2016 to January 2018.

We sued in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to compel the FBI to comply with our January 5, 2018, FOIA request ([Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice](#) (No. 1:19-cv-00177)). The lawsuit seeks:

Any and all records of communication, including but not limited to emails, text messages and instant chats, sent between Baker and any of the following individuals: former British intelligence officer Steele, principal of Orbis Business Intelligence, Ltd.; Glenn Simpson of Fusion GPS; former GPS contractor Nellie Ohr; and/or David Corn, a reporter with Mother Jones magazine.

The FBI claimed it had no responsive records, but Baker was [deeply involved](#) with the FBI's investigation of the Trump campaign and is currently the subject of a [criminal investigation](#) for leaking to the media.

The FBI's "no records" response is belied by Baker's closed-door [congressional testimony](#) in October 2018, in which he reportedly testified that David Corn, a reporter at the far Left *Mother Jones* magazine, had provided him with a copy of the anti-Trump dossier the day after President Trump's 2016 election victory. Baker also reportedly testified that he believed at the time that Corn received the dossier from Simpson, the co-founder of Fusion GPS.

Fusion GPS employee Nellie Ohr is the wife of former Associate Deputy Attorney General Bruce Ohr, who was a key conduit between dossier author Christopher Steele and the FBI. Former FBI Director James Comey himself called the dossier "[salacious and unverified](#)."

In August 2018, we filed [a related lawsuit](#) seeking records about the Ohrs' involvement in the anti-Trump dossier and the

FBI's meetings with the Democratic National Committee's law firm Perkins Coie. In November we filed [a lawsuit](#) about Baker's communication with the Clinton's law firm itself.

Perkins Coie had hired Fusion GPS to dig into President Trump's background. Baker reportedly told congressional investigators that Perkins Coie lawyer Michael Sussmann "initiated contact with [Baker] and provided documents and computer storage devices on Russian hacking." The contact was made in late 2016 as federal investigators prepared a FISA warrant to spy on Trump campaign aide Carter Page.

In August 2018, we released FBI records showing that Steele [was cut off](#) as a "Confidential Human Source" after he disclosed his relationship to the FBI to a third party. The documents show at least 11 FBI payments to Steele in 2016.

Baker also advised top FBI officials during the Hillary Clinton [email scandal](#). He left his role as general counsel in January 2018 and resigned from the FBI in May 2018.

The real collusion scandal of the 2016 election is the effort by the Clinton campaign and the Obama DOJ/FBI to spy on and destroy President Donald Trump. And it looks like the FBI is covering up documents on this Russiagate scandal, which is why we are again in federal court.

□

### **A Little Known Reason the TSA Is So Ineffective**

Next time you're delayed in an airport security line where surly TSA agents are yelling at you to remove your belt, you might want to thank your representative in Congress. That's where so many problems begin today, isn't it? Our *Corruption Chronicles* blog [lays it out](#).

Money to sustain the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) continuously flowed into the government's coffers via a special security fee collected from every passenger, yet Congress didn't release the funds during the shutdown.

Known as the [September 11 Security Fee](#), air carriers collect \$5.60 per one-way trip and \$11.20 round trip to help fund the TSA. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) reports an average daily air passenger flow of [2.6 million](#), which translates into \$14.5 million per day in TSA fees. That amounts to more than \$507 million collected during the 35-day government shutdown yet the agency's 51,000 employees didn't get paid, igniting an onslaught of hardship stories in the media. What happened to the money? Why didn't Congress release it even though House Speaker Nancy Pelosi claims, ["Our nation's leaders have no greater responsibility than ensuring the safety and security of the American people."](#)

The truth is Congress has for years diverted billions of dollars in September 11 Security Fees and used the money for other causes not related to air security. This predates the recent government shutdown and indicates where the "safety and security of the American people" sits on the congressional list of priorities.

In 2001 the TSA fee was \$2.50 per passenger, but Congress increased it to the current \$5.60 in 2013 and [restructured](#) the payment plan so that around \$13 billion of the TSA fees would go to "deficit reduction" and other government sectors. Under the revamp, created by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013, the revenue collected from passengers gets deposited in the general fund of the U.S. Treasury and a chunk of the money is used for other matters. The original statute enacted after the worst terrorist attack on American soil specifically required that the revenue from the passenger security fee be dedicated to providing civil aviation security services. The Budget Act amended it to require that a portion of money, \$12.63 billion generated over 10 years, be deposited in the general fund as "offsetting receipts for the Federal budget."

Redirecting passenger security fees naturally caused a ruckus in the airline industry, which has repeatedly demanded that Congress stop the practice. Using the TSA's budget for functions not related to aviation security has caused a multitude of problems, including excessive screening lines and a failure to align TSA staff and equipment with passenger volumes by location, according to the industry's trade organization, [Airlines for America](#) (A4A). In a letter to a U.S. Senator, the group's president writes that if Congress wants to take constructive and well-justified action, it would immediately put the diverted billions, paid by airline passengers, where it belongs. In [Congressional](#)

[testimony](#) last summer, the group's senior vice president revealed that in 2017 alone special taxes on airlines and their customers totaled over \$24 billion—more than \$66 million per day. “Stop the annual practice of diverting passenger security fee revenue,” the airline official, Sharon Pinkerton, told the House Homeland Security Committee.

If the TSA, created after the 2001 terrorist attacks, were properly funded perhaps it would be better equipped to meet its critical mission or handle unexpected events such as a government shutdown. The agency is charged with securing transportation by adequately screening luggage, passengers and properly vetting foreign flight students. Instead, it is best known for its shameful security lapses and efforts to [cover them up](#). For nearly a decade Judicial Watch has [reported extensively](#)—and uncovered records—involving the TSA's serious transgressions and failure to adequately fulfill its mission. This includes missing guns and bombs during covert exercises known as [“red team tests.”](#) TSA agents literally [sleeping on the job](#) and stealing from passengers, the failure to properly screen luggage and a number of other violations that have risked the nation's safety. [Records](#) obtained by Judicial Watch a few years ago show hundreds of badges that allow agents to access secure areas of airports went missing along with uniforms and other devices used to control entry. Just a few months ago, a [bipartisan congressional investigation](#) found that persistent misconduct by TSA managers often goes unpunished and whistleblowers who report it as well as airport safety risks are penalized by senior officials.

The TSA is a non-essential agency that performs an essential job that could otherwise be performed by the private sector. You can see the hurdles aren't principled but rather Big Government avarice for the fees the TSA generates to support other government spending.

### **New York's War on Religious Education**

The Left is infected by a virulent strain of anti-Christian animus these days, with leftist Democratic Senators repeatedly [attacking](#) Trump [nominees](#) because of their Christian faith. The anti-sectarian virus is infecting New York and is impacting other traditionalist faiths, as our chief investigative reporter, Micah Morrison, [reveals](#) in his *Investigative Bulletin*:

New York State has opened the door to a war on religious education. [New guidelines](#) from the state's Department of Education are framed as applying to all “religious and independent schools” in New York, but no one is fooled. The changes are aimed right at New York City's freewheeling Orthodox Jewish seminaries, known as yeshivas. More than 100,000 students attend yeshivas in New York City.

The new guidelines revisit the “substantial equivalency” statute that has kept the peace in New York schools since 1897. Non-public schools can educate their students as they see fit, provided the education is “substantially equivalent” to public schools. The new guidelines change the equation. Math must be taught every day. English, science, and social studies must be taught. Schools must provide samples of teaching schedules, textbooks, and lesson plans. Non-compliant schools risk withdrawal of funding for things like textbooks and transportation, and students ultimately could be forced to go to another school. Students that resist transfer risk being declared “truant” and legal steps to challenge parental competency could follow. The new mandates will be enforced by inspections from local school district officials.

The guidelines, wrote two Orthodox educators [in the Wall Street Journal](#), are a shocking power grab by secular forces. They “empower local school boards to evaluate private schools and to vote on our right to continue educating our students.” The new curriculum requirements demand “so much time that it crowds out Torah study, our sacred mission.”

The controversy began when dissident former yeshiva students started [raising concerns](#) about the quality of their education. Members of the Orthodox community concede that some yeshivas need improvement. But when you've [been in business for 1,500 years](#), give or take a few centuries, change comes slow. And as history as shown, it's a very bad idea to tell a Jew how to run his religion.

New Yorkers of all stripes were quick to recognize the threat to religious freedom. Ed Mechmann, director of public policy at the Catholic Archdiocese of New York, [wrote](#) that the new regulations would “give local school boards virtually unlimited power over private religious schools. There is no protection against government officials who are hostile to religious schools or who just want to eliminate the competition.”

A majority of the New York City Council — not a group known for its theological fervor — complained in a [letter](#) to the state Education Department about the “unprecedented incursion into private schools’ curricula” and warned it to refrain “from threatening to remove student-based funding from schools that do not acquiesce to these guidelines.”

In New York City, the Orthodox community is a powerful political force, often delivering critical votes in closely fought elections. New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio opened a probe in 2015 following complaints about sub-standard education from the yeshiva dissidents. But the investigation went nowhere. De Blasio’s own investigations commissioner, Mark Peters, [looked into](#) the controversy, only to be [fired later](#) by the mayor.

The new guidelines put the mayor back in the yeshiva hot seat and could revive the dormant investigation. They seem sure to ignite more controversy. School inspections are slated to begin in February. The yeshiva establishment says it won’t cooperate with inspectors, ditto from New York’s Catholic school leadership. That’s going to be a big problem.

New York City Schools Chancellor Richard Carranza [told The New York Times](#) he’s starting the inspections with yeshivas that have barred city officials or have been noted in complaints about poor education standards. Carranza said the de Blasio administration intends to “move aggressively and get this taken care of.”

Don’t bet on it.

Until next week ...

□

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton on WMAL: Federal Court SLAMS Deep State Dishonesty on Clinton Emails

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Mornings on the Mall” to discuss the latest developments on a recent court hearing about the Clinton email scandal.

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**From:** Tom Fitton <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Friday, May 03, 2019 4:21 PM EDT

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: Top Aide Admits That Clinton Used Personal Email for Official Business

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INSIDE JW

## Judicial Watch's Weekly Update: Top Aide Admits That Clinton Used Personal Email for Official Business

□

Jacob “Jake” Sullivan, Hillary Clinton’s senior advisor and deputy chief of staff when she was secretary of state, has now answered our questions under oath.

We have released [the transcript](#) of this court-ordered deposition in which he admits that both he and Clinton used her unsecure non-government email system to conduct official State Department business. A full transcript of the deposition is available [here](#).

Our [court-ordered](#) discovery centered upon whether Clinton intentionally attempted to evade the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) by using a non-government email system and whether the State Department adequately searched for records responsive to our FOIA request.

In the questioning, Sullivan admitted that he had used his personal Gmail account at times for State Department business but denied that he had sent classified information to Secretary Clinton’s unsecured personal system.

After we pointed out that on January 26, 2010, Sullivan sent a classified email with the subject line “[call sheet](#),” Sullivan testified: “When I sent this email, my best judgment was that none of the material in it was classified, and I felt comfortable sending the email on an unclassified system. The material has subsequently been upclassified but at the time that I sent it, I did not believe that it was classified.”

Sullivan said in the deposition that he had not been concerned about Clinton’s use of a non-government email account, because it was not part of his job:

Like Secretary Clinton has said herself, I wish she had used a State Department account. It wasn’t really part of my job to be thinking about Secretary Clinton’s emails so I don’t think I sort of fell down directly in my job, but do I wish I had thought of it during the time we were at State. Of course. I mean, what human being at this point wouldn’t have thought of that?

Sullivan’s deposition is part of United States District Judge Royce C. Lamberth’s [order](#) for senior officials — including Susan Rice, Ben Rhodes, Jacob Sullivan, and FBI official E.W. Priestap – to respond under oath to our questions.

A video of the Sullivan deposition exists but is [under seal](#) after the Justice Department and State Department, which opposed any discovery, objected to their public release. The court denied release of the video depositions for now and left the door open for reconsideration.

[T]he Court does not foreclose future releases of audiovisual recordings – in this or other cases. Judicial Watch may

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move to unseal portions of these recordings relied upon in future court filings. So too may it use the video recordings at trial, consistent with the Federal Rules of Evidence.

Judge Lamberth made the ruling in our July 2014 FOIA [lawsuit](#) filed after the U.S. Department of State failed to respond to a May 13, 2014 FOIA request ([Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of State](#) (No. 1:14-cv-01242)). We are seeking:

Copies of any updates and/or talking points given to Ambassador Rice by the White House or any federal agency concerning, regarding, or related to the September 11, 2012 attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya.

Any and all records or communications concerning, regarding, or relating to talking points or updates on the Benghazi attack given to Ambassador Rice by the White House or any federal agency.

What this means is that a federal court wants answers on the Clinton email scandal, and Sullivan is just one of many witnesses we will question under oath. It is shameful that the Justice and State Departments continue to try to protect Hillary Clinton and the Obama administration on the email scandal.

You will recall that U.S District Court Judge Royce Lamberth ordered Obama administration senior State Department officials, lawyers, and Clinton aides, as well as E.W. Priestap, to be deposed or answer written questions under oath. The court [ruled](#) that the Clinton email system was “one of the gravest modern offenses to government transparency.”

Previously we released [interrogatory responses](#) given under oath by [E.W. \(Bill\) Priestap](#), assistant director of the FBI Counterintelligence Division, in which he stated that agency found Clinton email records in the Obama White House, specifically, the Executive Office of the President.

□

### **What Were Anti-Trump Conspirators Strzok and Ohr Saying to Each Other?**

We have filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the Department of Justice for communications between two of the pivotal players in the Deep State, anti-Trump collusion – former FBI official Peter Strzok and Justice Department official Bruce Ohr ([Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice](#) (No. 1:19-cv-01082)).

We sued after submitting two similar July 20, 2018, FOIA requests to Justice and the FBI. The FBI failed to respond, while the Justice Department claimed to find no records of communications between Strzok and Ohr. The lawsuit seeks:

All records of communication between FBI official Peter Strzok and Bruce Ohr, in either his role as Associate Deputy Attorney General or Director of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force, including but not limited to emails (whether on .gov or non-.gov email accounts, and whether using their real names or aliases), text messages, encrypted app messages and/or instant chats.

The time frame for the requested records is January 2016 to July 20, 2018.

We are challenging the Justice Department’s extraordinary claim that there are no records of communications between Strzok and Ohr in light of the preeminent role both individuals played in the Deep State effort to undermine the Trump campaign and administration. In addition, Ohr himself [testified](#) before Congress that he did, in fact, meet and communicate with Strzok.

On April 25, Senator Charles Grassley (R-IA) submitted [a letter](#) to Attorney General William Barr about text messages from Strzok to former FBI lawyer Lisa Page “that may show potential attempts by the FBI to conduct surveillance of President-elect Trump’s transition team.”

We know that Peter Strzok was deeply involved in both running the Hillary server investigation cover-up by the FBI and in creating the counterintelligence “investigation” of false claims of Trump-Russian collusion. It’s doubtful that Ohr’s meetings with Strzok over a matter of national importance happened without a scrap of communication. It’s past time the Justice

Department begins acting in good faith, stops the game playing, abides by the law and produces the documents.

## **We're Suing Over Federal Purchases of Human Abortion Tissue**

The FDA is using your tax dollars to purchase fetal tissue sold by abortion clinics, and we are investigating.

We have filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) seeking Food and Drug Administration (FDA) documents about the purchase and use of human fetal tissue obtained from abortion clinics that was used by FDA researchers in “humanized mice” testing.

We sued in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia ([\*Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department Health and Human Services\*](#) (No. 1:19-cv-00876)) after HHS failed to respond adequately to a September 28, 2018, FOIA request for:

1. All contracts and related documentation between FDA and Advanced Biosciences Resources (ABR) for the provision of human fetal tissue to be used in humanized mice research.
2. All records reflecting the disbursement of funds to ABR for the provision of human fetal tissue to be used in humanized mice research.
3. All guidelines and procedural documents provided to ABR by FDA relating to the acquisition and extraction of human fetal tissue for its provision to the FDA for humanized mice research.
4. All communications between FDA officials and employees and representatives of ABR related to the provision by ABR to the FDA of human fetal tissue for the purpose of humanized mice research.

Here's what's going on. On July 25, 2018, the FDA signed [a contract](#) to acquire human fetal tissue to transplant into “[humanized mice](#)” so that the mice would have a human immune system.

The Trump administration in September 2018 halted the FDA's contract with Advanced Biosciences Resources, which sold fetal tissue it obtained from abortion clinics to the FDA for use in animal testing. Additionally, HHS said in a [statement](#) on September 24, 2018, that it was “conducting an audit of all acquisitions involving human fetal tissue to ensure conformity with procurement and human fetal tissue research laws and regulations.”

Members of Congress, in a [September 17, 2018, letter](#) to FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb, raised concern over the FDA's signing on July 25, 2018, of a \$15,900 contract with ABR. It was the eighth contract between FDA and ABR since 2012.

In the letter, the Congress members noted that separate 2016 investigations by the House Select Investigative Panel on Infant Lives and the Senate Judiciary Committee found that ABR paid abortion clinics \$60 per “single aborted fetus” and sold the body parts to researchers at fees of \$325 per “specimen” (brain, eyes, liver, thymus and lungs).

Why are U.S. taxpayer dollars being used to contract with a company alleged to have trafficked in baby body parts? We are demanding a full accounting of the procedures as well as the funds used in this disturbing experimentation.

## **Bruce Ohr Email Raises Possible Ethics Concerns Tied to Russia Testimony**

If we knew what Bruce and Nellie Ohr knew, we could pretty much complete a big patch of the jigsaw puzzle that is the coup attempt against President Trump.

Now we know a bit more. We have received [33 pages](#) of records from the Department of Justice showing that former senior DOJ official Bruce Ohr in his January 2018 preparation to testify to the Senate and House intelligence committees wrote to a lawyer about “possible ethics concerns.” Bruce Ohr forwarded the email to his wife Nellie Ohr, who had been hired by Fusion GPS, the Hillary Clinton campaign-Democratic National Committee vendor who compiled the anti-Trump Dossier.

We obtained the records through our August 2018 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) [lawsuit](#) filed against the Justice Department after it failed to respond to a May 29, 2018, FOIA request ([\*Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice\*](#) (No. 1:18-cv-01854)). Judicial Watch seeks:

All records from the Office of the Deputy Attorney General relating to Fusion GPS, Nellie Ohr and/or British national

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Christopher Steele, including but not limited to all records of communications about and with Fusion GPS officials, Nellie Ohr and Christopher Steele.

All records from the office of former Associate Deputy Attorney General Bruce G. Ohr relating to Fusion GPS, Nellie Ohr and/or British national Christopher Steele, including but not limited to all records of communications (including those of former Associate Deputy Attorney General Ohr) about and with Fusion GPS officials, Nellie Ohr and Christopher Steele.

All records from the office of the Director of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force relating to Fusion GPS, Nellie Ohr and/or British national Christopher Steele, including but not limited to all records of communications (including those of former Organized Crime Task Force Director Bruce Ohr) about and with Fusion GPS officials, Nellie Ohr and Christopher Steele.

On January 3, 2018, Bruce Ohr [emailed](#) Justice Department [ethics lawyer Cynthia Shaw](#), and advised her that the Senate and House intelligence committees had requested to interview him about investigations into possible Russian interference in the 2016 election. He noted that a number of press reports had come out about his “alleged” connections to Christopher Steele. He asked her a question that is largely redacted but sought information about “possible ethics concerns.” He forwarded this email to his wife Nellie:

Cynthia –

Thank you for taking the time to chat with me this morning. As requested, here is a short description of my question:

As you may have heard, the Senate intelligence committee and House intelligence committee requested to interview me in connection with their investigations of possible Russian interference in the 2016 elections. Shortly after receiving the Senate request, a series of stories broke in the press about my alleged connections to Chris Steele, the author of the so-called Trump dossier. [Redacted]

My question has to do with [redacted]. Are there any guidelines for [redacted] in order to satisfy any possible ethics concerns?

Shaw’s response is largely redacted:

Hi Bruce,

Can you obtain [redacted]

Thanks,

Cindy

The new documents also reveal a close relationship between Fusion GPS employee Nellie Ohr and DOJ Russia experts Lisa Holtyn, Joseph Wheatley and Ivana Nizich.

On May 11, 2016, Nellie Ohr received [an email](#) invitation to attend a Hudson Institute “Kleptocracy Archive Launch.” Notably, Fusion GPS principal Glenn Simpson, listed as “a Senior Fellow at the International Assessment and Strategy Center” who “now works frequently on Russian corporate crime and criminal organizations,” was to be a panelist.

Nellie forwarded the invitation to top Bruce Ohr aide Lisa Holtyn and husband/wife DOJ lawyers Joseph Wheatley and Ivana Nizich. Holtyn, Wheatley, and Nizich all worked for the DOJ’s Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF), which investigated Russian cartels and other Russian syndicated crime matters.

On April 29, 2016, Holtyn, who worked in the Organized Crime and Racketeering Section, Criminal Division of the Justice Department, [emailed](#) an unidentified individual in the Criminal Investigative Division of the FBI:

I asked Bruce and he didn't know him, but is going to see if Nellie does.

I was wondering if maybe we knew him through some sort of Glenn Simpson or John Picarelli-sponsored event. If he hadn't referred to you as [redacted] it wouldn't have bothered me so much, but knowledge of that particular nickname implies a certain degree of familiarity not available on the Internet. [John Picarelli] is current Acting Deputy Director of the Department of Homeland Security and then-Justice Department Program Manager for Transnational Issues.]

The unidentified FBI employee emailed Holtyn back: "It does. I'm baffled."

An April 25, 2016, [email](#) shows Nellie Ohr inviting Lisa Holtyn to another Hudson Institute Russia talk.

An [email](#) on the following day shows Nellie Ohr declining an invitation by Holtyn to go to a film.

A March 28, 2016, [email](#) with the subject line "email intro" shows Holtyn introducing Nellie Ohr to a husband/wife pair of prosecutors at the Department of Justice in the Criminal Division ("CRM") named Joe Wheatley and Ivana Nizich.

We previously released other [DOJ documents](#) that detail numerous contacts with Russiagate figure Christopher Steele and many other communications between Nellie Ohr and Ohr's DOJ colleagues.

Bruce Ohr was the conflicted center of the Clinton-DNC effort to launder fraudulent Russia material into the Justice Department and FBI. These documents show that Bruce Ohr was aware enough to look for advice – or look for cover – on ethics issues. His wife, Fusion GPS employee Nellie Ohr, had chummy relationships with various Justice Department officials, which illustrates perfectly why it was so easy for Fusion GPS to sell its anti-Trump Dossier scam.

### **What's the Deal on Andrew Weissmann's Meeting with AP Reporters?**

It's well known that the Deep State coup against Donald Trump was aided through leaks to a willing media. And it's well known that Robert Mueller's chief attack dog in the special counsel's office, Andrew Weissman, appeared to have had difficulty recognizing the boundaries of propriety.

We aim to find out how those two things come together.

We have filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Justice for records of a meeting set up by then-Chief of the Justice Department's Criminal Fraud Section Andrew Weissmann between the DOJ, FBI and reporters from The Associated Press (AP), in which Weissmann allegedly provided guidance to reporters investigating Paul Manafort, and which may have led to the raid of Manafort's storage locker ([Judicial Watch v. U.S. Department of Justice](#) (No. 1:19-cv-00879)).

Just over two months after the meeting, Weissmann was appointed to be Special Counsel Robert Mueller's top aide in the now-defunct Russia collusion investigation. Under Mueller, Weissmann became [known as](#) "the architect of the case against former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort," which produced no evidence of collusion between Manafort, the Trump campaign, and Russian operatives. It indicted Manafort on unrelated charges.

Our suit was filed after the FBI failed to respond to a July 5, 2018, FOIA request for:

- All records concerning the April 2017 meeting between Department of Justice and FBI personnel and representatives of The Associated Press. This request includes all notes, reports, memoranda, briefing materials, or other records created in preparation for, during, and/or pursuant to the meeting.
- All records of communication between any representative of the Department of Justice and any of the individuals present at the aforementioned meeting.

Weissmann [reportedly](#) arranged a meeting with "DOJ and FBI officials and four Associated Press reporters on April 11, 2017, just over a month before Mueller was appointed special counsel." At a hearing in June 2017 a special agent testified that "the FBI may have conducted a May 2017 raid of a storage locker that Manafort was renting based on a tip from AP reporters. He also said that the purpose of the meeting was for the DOJ and FBI to obtain information from The AP."

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We have previously [uncovered documents](#) that show Weissmann had an anti-Trump animus. A Judicial Watch FOIA lawsuit uncovered a supportive email sent by Weissmann to former Acting Attorney General Sally Yates praising her refusal to enforce President Trump's Middle East travel ban executive order. Weissmann applauds Yates writing: "I am so proud. And in awe. Thank you so much. All my deepest respects."

The liberal media and then-soon-to-be Mueller deputy Andrew Weissmann seem to have colluded in an effort to target the Trump team. And rather than comply with the Freedom of Information Act, the DOJ has ignored our request. The illegal secrecy at the DOJ suggests the agency has something to hide about its abusive targeting of President Trump.

### **We're Helping a Watchdog Group Get Information on DC's Transit System**

We at Judicial Watch live and work in the District of Columbia, but this is also *your* city. It's *your* national capital, and its mass transportation hub, Metro, is a mess.

We're helping a local watchdog group gather information on this embarrassment. We have filed a Public Access to Records Policy lawsuit against the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority ("Metro") and its General Manager, Paul Wiedefeld, on behalf of Unsuck DC Metro for an unredacted version of their Customer Satisfaction Tracking Study ([Unsuck DC Metro v. Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority and Paul Wiedefeld](#) (No. 1:19-cv-01242)).

Unsuck DC Metro (@UnsuckDCMetro) is a citizens' watchdog over the DC area's public transit Metro system. "Over the years, various general managers have promised transparency but, in fact, Metro has become increasingly opaque. A taxpayer-funded organization withholding information, such as the questions on the customer satisfaction survey, from the public on dubious grounds is unacceptable. If local politicians won't hold Metro accountable and truly transparent, perhaps this lawsuit will," Unsuck DC Metro said.

We sued after WMATA denied an Unsuck DC Metro April 26, 2018, open records request for Metro's customer satisfaction survey by providing a version of the survey with [28 of 29 pages](#) completely blacked out and redacted.

Metro has had safety, management, financial, and declining ridership problems. DC Metro has been called "[the worst in the world](#)." Services have been drastically cut so that three years' worth of maintenance can be done. Meanwhile, fares are increasing and ridership is declining.

A collision in 2009 between two trains killed [nine people](#). In 2015 a woman died of smoke inhalation during an electrical malfunction.

In October 2018, Metro asked for an additional \$87 million of taxpayer dollars, which would push its operation expenditure to [\\$1.0794 billion](#).

The Metro board's chairman Jack Evans and General Manager Paul J. Wiedefeld said recently that the system was in such poor shape that segments of rail lines could shut down [for weeks at a time for maintenance](#), and that much more additional funding is needed."

Metro's leaders have not offered a solution to the system's [ridership decline](#).

DC's Metro system is a mess and untold millions of federal and local tax dollars have gone to support this failing, corrupt and unsafe transit operation system. Metro is so out of it that it won't even release its most recent Ridership Survey to the public! In our experience, this illegal secrecy means Metro has something to hide.

For an interview I did with a top local radio show, [click here](#).

Until next week ...

□

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: Giuliani Helped Prove Mueller Investigation is Political

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Lou Dobbs Tonight” on the Fox Business Network to discuss Trump attorney Rudy Giuliani’s statement that Special Counsel Robert Mueller won’t indict President Trump.

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### HUGE: President Trump Retweets Judicial Watch Six Times!

President Donald Trump retweeted Judicial Watch six times on April 17th! The six tweets were about Judicial Watch's latest press release discussing new Clinton emails uncovered, A segment of Hannity discussing Judicial Watch's newest discoveries, a Judicial Watch press release discussing new FBI documents uncovered showing 'cover-up' discussions in the Clinton investigation, a segment of Tom Fitton on Fox News discussing AG Bill Barr, a Judicial Watch press release about FBI and DOJ communications discovered, and a segment from Judicial Watch's weekly update.

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**From:** JW 60 Seconds <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

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**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** JW 60 Seconds: Yes, Judicial Watch is Investigating the Jussie Smollett Scandal (VIDEO)

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## **JW 60 Seconds: Yes, Judicial Watch is Investigating the Jussie Smollett Scandal**

□

Judicial Watch announced it will be investigating the Jussie Smollett Scandal! Watch the video above to learn more about it!



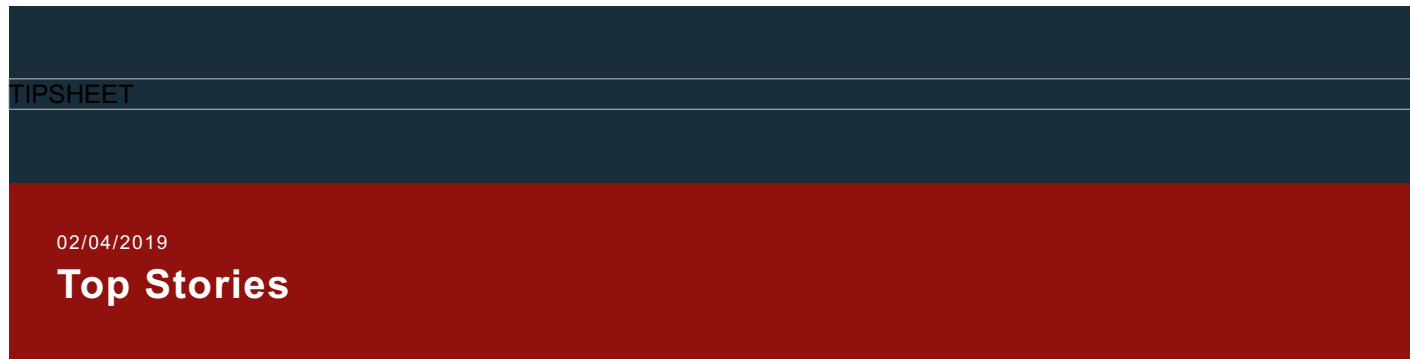
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**From:** JW Tipsheet <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 04, 2019 11:23 AM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** JW Sues for Records of Former FBI Counsel Baker's Communications with Steele

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IMAGE

### JW Sues for Records of Former FBI Counsel Baker's Communications with Steele-

Judicial Watch announced today that it has filed a lawsuit against the Department of Justice for all records of communication from January 2016 to January 2018 between former FBI General Counsel James Baker and anti-Trump dossier author Christopher Steele...

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### Billions in TSA 9/11 Security Fees Diverted by Congress for Other Causes

Money to sustain the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) continuously flowed into the government's coffers via a special security fee collected from every passenger, yet Congress didn't release the funds during the shutdown...

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### Food Stamp Fraud on the Rise as Government Allows "Retailer Trafficking"

Weeks after a federal audit blasted the government for failing to curb rampant fraud in its multi-billion-dollar food stamp program, two Ohio men have been indicted for operating a \$2.7 million scheme that spanned six years.

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## New York's War on Religious Education

New York State has opened the door to a war on religious education. New guidelines from the state's Department of Education are framed as applying to all "religious and independent schools" in New York, but no one is fooled...

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## Must Read

**Ethics Committee won't punish Cory Booker for 'Spartacus' release of confidential Kavanaugh email-** *Washington Times*— The Senate ethics committee has decided it won't punish Sen. Cory Booker for releasing confidential emails during the confirmation hearings for Justice Brett M. Kavanaugh... [Read more](#)

**Keep our investigators on the job uncovering the truth:**

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**Obama's Secret Rationale for the Raid on Bin Laden-** *Bloomberg*- So it looks like those secret Osama bin Laden memos are going to stay secret a bit longer. These are the written opinions by lawyers at multiple U.S. intelligence agencies, drafted in 2011 at the request of President Barack Obama's administration, on whether the U.S. had the legal right to capture or kill bin Laden at his hideout in Pakistan... [Read more](#)

**Fitton: JW Moves to Question Top Obama-Clinton Officials About Benghazi, Clinton Emails-** *Breitbart*— The Departments of State and Justice will not investigate themselves we now know, and of course we can't expect any more efforts in the House of Representatives to get to the bottom of Hillary Clinton's fraudulent behavior in high office... [Read more](#)

## Must Watch

**Tom Fitton: Targeting of Trump's Team 'Worst Corruption by DOJ in Modern Times'-** January 29, 2019-[Watch Now!](#)

**JW Inside Report: Indictments against Roger Stone are 'Watered Down,' Don't Involve Conspiracy w/ Russia-** January 31, 2019- [Watch Now!](#)

**Tom Fitton: 'Air Pelosi' Travel Abuse Update, NEW FBI/RussiaGate Collusion-** February 4, 2019- [Watch Now!](#)

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IMAGE

## Tom Fitton: At this Point, Mueller Probe is ‘Harassment’

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Fox & Friends First” weighed in on the special counsel probe’s impact over the last year and what it could mean for Mueller’s final report, reportedly expected by February.

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**From:** JW Corruption Chronicles <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019 3:13 PM EDT

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** JW White Paper Makes Case to Designate Mexican Cartels as Foreign Terrorist Organizations

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CORRUPTION CHRONICLES

## JW White Paper Makes Case to Designate Mexican Cartels as Foreign Terrorist Organizations

As the Trump administration [considers](#) designating Mexican drug cartels as Foreign Terrorist Organizations (FTO), Judicial Watch provides comprehensive documentation that the sophisticated criminal operations meet the U.S. government's requirements to make the list. In a [White Paper](#) released this week Judicial Watch outlines the unique challenges and national security risks posed by Mexican Transitional Criminal Organizations (TCO) and human trafficking. The threats require policy changes that include classifying Mexican TCOs as FTOs and a reassessment of Mexico under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA), which requires countries to implement measures that address human trafficking in order to receive American aid. Mexico does not meet the minimum standards in several key areas, according to State Department documents obtained by Judicial Watch for the White Paper.

Undoubtedly, Mexican drug cartels meet the U.S. government's criteria for FTO designation, which requires organizations to be foreign, engage in terrorism or terrorist activity or possess the capability and intent to do so and pose a threat to U.S. nationals or U.S. national security. Mexican drug cartels are inherently foreign, routinely commit criminal acts within the statutory definition of terrorism and arguably represent a more immediate and ongoing threat to U.S. national security than any of the currently-designated FTOs on the State Department [list](#). Properly designating the major Mexican TCOs—including Los Zetas, Juárez and Sinaloa cartels—as FTOs would enhance the federal government's ability to combat that threat. An official FTO designation would enable the prosecution of those who provide material support to them, facilitate the denial of entry and deportation of TCO members and affiliates and eliminate the organizations' access to the U.S. financial system. "FTO designations play a critical role in our fight against terrorism and are an effective means of curtailing support for terrorist activities and pressuring groups to get out of the terrorism business," according to the State Department.

For years Mexican cartels have hijacked and sabotaged buses, commercial trucks and trains, activity constituting terrorist activity under U.S. law. The White Paper lists specific cases, including gasoline tankers and more than a dozen robberies daily of Ferromex trains, one of the three largest rail transport operators in the country. Mexican TCOs have also committed hundreds of political assassinations in recent years and members of Los Zetas launched a grenade and shot small arms fire at the U.S. Consulate in Monterrey. Los Zetas members also murdered Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Special Agent Jaime Zapata a few years ago. Judicial Watch's White Paper also documents Mexican cartels' use of explosive devices and high-caliber firearms, including rocket-propelled grenades and other military weapons. In 2018 Mexican officials seized nearly 2,000 high-caliber weapons from suspected cartel associates in Mexico City and there have been approximately 150,000 organized-crime related murders in Mexico since 2006. Last year alone, there were nearly 1,200 kidnappings in Mexico, according to official figures provided in the White Paper.

Most of the crimes are financially motivated, but a significant number are executed to intimidate political, judicial, military and law enforcement officials from going after cartel members. Examples include two Mexican federal agents kidnapped and murdered by the Cartel de Jalisco Nueva Generación, the kidnapping of Veracruz congresswoman-elect Norma Rodriguez and the kidnapping of Hidalgo Mayor Genero Urbano. Under U.S. law the seizing or detaining and threatening to kill, injure, or continue to detain, another individual in order to compel a third person (including a governmental organization) to do or abstain from doing any act as an explicit or implicit condition for the release of the seized individual constitutes terrorist activity. The danger created by these criminal enterprises is nothing new. A few years ago, the Drug Enforcement

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Administration determined that Mexican TCOs are the [greatest criminal threat to the United States](#).

Mexico also fails miserably to combat human trafficking, which is pervasive in the country despite generous U.S. assistance under the TVPA. The Mexican government has not met the minimum standards under the 2000 law, including enhanced criminal sanctions for human traffickers and protections for victims. Figures obtained by Judicial Watch show that Mexico obtained fewer convictions than in the previous year, identified fewer victims than in the previous year, provided limited specialized services for trafficking victims, which were unavailable in most parts of the country, and maintained an inadequate number of shelters compared to the scale of the problem. The government inspected and prosecuted few complaints of forced labor in agriculture and corruption and complicity remain significant concerns inhibiting law enforcement action. The U.S. government should downgrade Mexico because it is not making required efforts to meet the TVPA's minimum standards. The reassessment would reduce American funding until improvements take place.

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: A DOJ Spying Investigation would be a Win for the Rule of Law

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "Fox and Friends" on the Fox News Channel to discuss President Trump's request for a DOJ probe into whether the FBI infiltrated his campaign.

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### Chris Farrell: Bruce Ohr is the Linchpin of the Steel Dossier Controversy

JW Director of Investigations and Research Chris Farrell appeared on "Lou Dobbs Tonight" on the Fox Business Network to discuss Bruce Ohr and Fusion GPS.

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**'President Trump is  
a Victim of Illegal  
Targeting by the  
Obama Admin'**

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**Tom Fitton's Video  
Weekly Update**

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**'Decrepit & Abusive  
Behavior' against  
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**Tom Fitton's Video Weekly Update**

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**Tom Fitton on Mueller Report: Long National Nightmare Over**

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**Deep State DOJ Has Zero Interest in Investigating Hillary**

Clinton

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**Media CONSPIRED  
w/ Those Targeting  
President Trump;  
KNEW Russian  
Collusion Was a LIE**

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**Hillary Clinton  
IMPROPERLY  
PROTECTED by  
Obama DOJ/FBI over  
Email Scandal**

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Clinton Associate  
Lanny Davis  
Attending the  
Michael Cohen  
Hearings?**

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**EVERYONE in  
Washington DC  
Knows There is No  
Trump/Russia  
Collusion**

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**Tom Fitton: Rep.  
Nadler's  
Investigation into  
Trump a  
'Remarkable' Abuse  
of Power**

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Benghazi Scandal &  
Clinton Email  
Scandal are Linked**

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**Tom Fitton's Video  
Weekly Update**

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**Our Top 5  
Investigations of  
2018**

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**Pandemic Influenza & U.S. Public Health Readiness with Dr. Steven Hatfill, M.D.**

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Enforced Voter  
Integrity**

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**Tom Fitton's Video  
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**Tom Fitton: The  
Nation Needs a  
Border Wall**

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**How Judicial Watch Won the Battle for Election Integrity in CA**

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Adam Schiff Should  
Step Down—CANNOT  
Be Trusted to Handle  
Classified Info**

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**Tom Fitton's Video  
Weekly Update**

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**Chris Farrell: Are  
Govt. Officials  
Peddling Stories to  
CNN?**

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**Spygate “The Worst Corruption Scandal in American History”**



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PROTECTING Hillary  
Clinton to Help  
Overthrow President  
Trump**

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**Tom Fitton's Video  
Weekly Update**

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**Designating Cartels  
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Re-Evaluating  
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**House Dems are**

**Harrassing the  
President with  
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**Rosenstein/Mueller  
Control the DOJ-  
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**Fitton: Deep State  
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**From:** Judicial Watch <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Saturday, January 26, 2019 9:26 AM EST

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** JWTV Video Weekend Playback

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## VIDEOS OF THE WEEK

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**Tom Fitton: Pelosi  
Abuses Use of  
Luxury Travel**

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**Time to Investigate  
Mueller...Secure the  
Border  
NOW...Clinton  
Updates...& More!**

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**DOJ and FBI  
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**Mueller is Illicitly  
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**Harassing President  
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**OUTRAGEOUS--  
Senate Ethics  
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**Exposing Secret  
Service Secrecy on  
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## VIDEOS OF THE WEEK

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**Tom Fitton: DNC  
Worked With  
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Overthrow the  
President**

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**Tom Fitton: AG Barr  
Should Investigate  
the Anti-Trump  
Coup!**

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**Mueller Report was a  
Political Tool Used  
to Attack the  
President**

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**Lisa Page Testimony  
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Crime'**

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**How Donald Trump  
was Targeted by the  
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**Key FBI Officials  
Were 'Bending over  
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**Rep. Adam Schiff's  
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**DOJ Playing Games  
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**Tom Fitton: El Paso  
Region is 'Freeway'  
for Drugs, Human  
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Terrorism**

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**Tom Fitton:  
Democrats in  
Congress on a  
'fishing expedition'  
for President Trump**

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**Shady Deal Offered Between FBI and State Dept to Protect Clinton**

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**'INCREDIBLE'  
DOJ/FBI Abuses  
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Trump a 'Threat to  
Our Form of  
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**Tom Fitton's Video  
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**Tom Fitton: Bill Barr  
Needs to Step Up  
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**Sent:** Saturday, February 02, 2019 8:53 AM EST

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**Subject:** JWTV Video Weekend Playback

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**Indictments against  
Roger Stone are  
'Watered Down,'  
Don't Involve  
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**Tom Fitton's Video  
Weekly Update**

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**Targeting of Trump's  
Team 'Worst  
Corruption by DOJ  
in Modern Times'**

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**Sent:** Saturday, February 09, 2019 9:05 AM EST

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** JWTV Video Weekend Playback

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Swamp Doesn't Care  
about our National  
Security if it Means  
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**Tom Fitton's Video  
Weekly Update**

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**Securing the Border  
is a 'Moral Duty'**

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**Inside Judicial Watch: The Border Crisis, Election Integrity in CA, & the Clinton Email  
Scandal**



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**From:** U.S. Election Assistance Commission, Democracy Fund Voice, and Arizona State University <alberto.olivas@asu.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 15, 2018 2:41 PM EDT  
**To:** Hogan, Mike <MHogan@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Language Access for Voters - Summit Highlights & Recap

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In late July 2018, the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC), Arizona State University's Ed Pastor Center for Politics and Public Service, and Democracy Fund Voice (DFV) hosted the third annual [Summit on Language Access for Voters](#) at the Newseum in Washington D.C., as part of our joint commitment to help election officials meet and exceed their language assistance requirements.

#### Election Assistance Commission Chairman Tom Hicks

The 2018 summit showcased government officials, advocates and other stakeholders, who shared their first-hand experiences and observations to help jurisdictions understand and prepare for election language assistance. EAC Chair Tom Hicks shared that, "according to the U.S. census bureau data, there are more than 25 million people in the United States with limited English proficiency, and more than 60 million – or nearly one in five – people in the United States who speak a language other than English at home."

#### Session 2 Panel members

#### Rhode Island Secretary of State Nelly Gorbea

Alberto Olivas, Founding Executive Director of the Pastor Center, offered the observation that, "voting is what happens when we have done a good job at helping people understand their rights and their roles as citizens, but it is also the front door to citizenship." This year, the summit focused on going beyond official requirements to ensure that all voters have a meaningful opportunity to cast a ballot.

#### Michelle Bishop, Voting Rights Specialist, National Disability Rights Network

The day featured four panels, two summit talks, and two guest speakers, Acting Assistant Attorney General John Gore of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division and Rhode Island Secretary of State Nellie M. Gorbea. Panelists representing Asian American, Latino, American Indian, Alaskan Native, and additional language communities from around the country discussed demographic changes, the Section 203 designation process, federal requirements under the Voting Rights Act, strategies for cost-effective services and voluntary and proactive language assistance.

The audience was challenged to think beyond some assumptions and stigmas associated with language access. John Yang, President and Executive Director of Asian Americans Advancing Justice - AAJC, explained that officials are often providing language assistance to people who generally do speak some English, but reiterated that "someone is not less of a citizen because they [...] need some sort of help at the ballot box."

#### Bill Cowles, Supervisor of Elections, Orange County FL

#### EAC Vice Chair Christy McCormick with Nicole Crispo, City Clerk, Quincy, MA.

Bill Cowles, Supervisor of Elections for Orange County, Florida reminded listeners that "not only do you serve a language, but you also have to figure out the dialect for that area." Shedding light on the need to really know the communities election officials serve. This sentiment was repeated by other local election officials throughout the day.

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Discussions were also grounded in practicality, with EAC Vice Chair Christy McCormick noting, and others echoing, that “election officials know better than most the importance of adopting strategies to spend their limited resources as effectively as possible.”

We thank everyone who participated in-person or online. In the words of DFV Senior Fellow Terry Ao Minnis, this “community of people who all share the same goal of ensuring access for all voters – with a particular focus for those with language needs – allows us to really try to break down the barriers, discover innovative ways to best serve language minority voters, and build a better tomorrow for all.”

For those unable to participate in the summit, or for participants who wish to revisit summit conversations, event materials, panel videos, workshops, talks and slide decks are available [here](#).

Terry Ao Minis, Senior Fellow, Democracy Fund Voice

## PANELS

[Current Issues and Looking Ahead to 2021](#)

[Cost-Effective Practices for Providing Language Assistance](#)

[Above and Beyond Section 203: Voluntary Assistance and Other Proactive Measures](#)

[Trends in Election Administration and their Impact on Language Access](#)

## SUMMIT TALKS

[Deaf Culture and Access to the Vote Michelle Bishop, Voting Rights Specialist, National Disability Rights Network](#)

[Language Community Outreach in Alaska: Building Relationships, Trust, and Tapping Cultural Knowledge](#)

[Guest Speaker: John Gore, Acting Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice](#)

[Guest Speaker: Nellie M. Gorbea, Rhode Island Secretary of State](#)

## We Want to Hear From You!

If you have any questions or a helpful resource you would like to share with us, please contact David Kuennen at [dkuennen@eac.gov](mailto:dkuennen@eac.gov). If you'd like to be a part of planning next year's summit, please reach out to Stacey Scholl at [sscholl@democracyfundvoice.org](mailto:sscholl@democracyfundvoice.org).

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**From:** Tom Fitton <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 21, 2019 10:16 AM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Largest caseload in over 25 years!

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Judicial Watch

Dear Fellow American,

Our team works hard every day to honor your trust. And as we carry forward in 2019 with the largest caseload of active lawsuits and investigations in our 25-year history, we're fighting for accountability and government transparency on many fronts.

And ***what counts the most is that we're making important headway.***

[That's why I hope you will help us today by donating to support our work!](#)

CONTRIBUTE

We just began 2019 with a ***stunning victory*** on behalf of honest and fair elections. Our successful settlement agreement with the **State of California** and **County of Los Angeles** will remove up to 1.5 million inactive voters from the Los Angeles voter rolls!

This settlement...involving both the nation's biggest state and biggest county... is ***truly historic***...and already sending shock waves throughout the offices of state election officials across the country!

You can be sure we will follow up on this success nationwide!

Removing the names of individuals from voter rolls who have either died or moved away is not only a common-sense way to shut down voter fraud...***it is also required by federal law!***

But if it were not for our 2017 lawsuit over California and Los Angeles County's failure to clean their voter rolls, this historic settlement agreement would not have happened. Because when the Justice Department fails to do its duty to enforce the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA), Judicial Watch is stepping into the breach... ***and winning in a number of critical states!***

The Left (***aided and abetted by the Deep State***) is not only engaged in a full-scale attack against honest and fair elections, but they're also pursuing a lawless, unconstitutional assault on President Trump and his team.

That's why America urgently needs Judicial Watch's nonpartisan, independent commitment to supporting government transparency, accountability and the rule of law.

[And that's why I hope you will help us today by making your most generous tax-deductible contribution to Judicial Watch!](#)

I can tell you right now that like election integrity, there are many more challenges to the rule of law and government transparency that only Judicial Watch has the expertise and proven track record to confront.

I know you share my commitment to holding corrupt politicians in both parties accountable under the law, and to keeping our elections honest. [That's why I hope you will support our work right now.](#)

Thank you, as always, for all you do to support Judicial Watch and our mission.

Sincerely,

Thomas Fitton  
President

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**From:** Ed Feulner <info@heritage.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 15, 2017 7:45 PM EDT  
**To:** Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Last time

Robert,

I had to write you one more time.

Your deadline to [double your gift to equip the Trump administration and conservative lawmakers](#) with the solutions to reclaim America is midnight tonight.

**DEADLINE: MIDNIGHT TONIGHT**



Literally everything may be on the line: Our nation's future. Our families' future.

Your gift will help get the principled ideas and solutions into the right hands. You will equip our nation's decision makers with the plans on how to jump-start the economy, confirm constitutional judges to the courts, reduce the size and spending of the federal government, secure America's borders, repeal and replace Obamacare.

You can inspire and equip more conservative fighters in the White House and in Congress.

[Please give your best contribution right away and have your gift matched dollar-for-dollar.](#)

Thanks

Onward!

Ed Feulner  
President

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**From:** JW Corruption Chronicles <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 03, 2019 2:18 PM EDT

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** Law to Protect Women Against Domestic Violence Forces Shelters to House Transgender Men

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CORRUPTION CHRONICLES

## Law to Protect Women Against Domestic Violence Forces Shelters to House Transgender Men

The renewal of a law enacted decades ago to protect women against domestic violence crimes is full of leftist statutory devices and entitlements, restricts gun rights and requires the nation's prisons to accommodate criminals based on their gender identity.

If the measure, introduced in the House of Representatives last month, passes it will also defund women's shelters because they cater to females and don't allow transgender men who might self-identify as women.

Originally passed in 1994, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) has been renewed and broadened over the years to fund agencies that offer victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse social services. It receives hundreds of millions of dollars from American taxpayers annually.

Last year Texas Democrat [Sheila Jackson Lee](#) introduced a VAWA [reauthorization](#) loaded with similar prohibitions on gun ownership and leftist policies as the version currently floating around the House. Fortunately, the bill was never brought to committee or the House floor for a vote but many of its outrageous provisions have made it to the 2019 measure, which was introduced early last month by California Democrat Karen Bass and Pennsylvania Republican Brian Fitzpatrick. "The bill improves on current law by improving services for survivors of violence, expanding housing protections for survivors, and expanding relevant training for school based and campus health centers," according to a [statement](#) issued by Congressman Fitzpatrick. "It includes services for young people to combat bullying, education youth on how to prevent violence, and helping children exposed to violence."

In the press release Fitzpatrick, a former FBI agent, fails to mention various Bolshevik ideas that are being advanced in the [Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act](#) of 2019. Among them are measures restricting gun ownership, the creation of an alternative justice system to avoid law enforcement and preposterous housing policies that, among other things, protect criminal activity.

It also requires the nation's prisons to incarcerate transgender convicts according to the gender they identify with and women's domestic violence shelters to take in men that identify as women. The 2019 reauthorization creates a new protected class under "gender discrimination" and specifically prohibits sex segregation in sleeping and housing facilities and leads to the elimination of "women" shelters/transitional housing/sleeping facilities.

A Republican congresswoman from Arizona is trying to eliminate that provision from the bill. Her name is Debbie Lesko, a survivor of domestic violence, and she believes it's wrong to force women's shelters to take in men. "If this is called the Violence Against Women Act, it is not fair that the government is forcing these organizations to take in biological males to be sleeping right next to biological women," Lesko said in a [recent news report](#).

"I don't think that's fair to the women." In a [mainstream newspaper story](#) the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, New York Democrat Jerrold Nadler, countered that "transgender women are not biological males; they are transgender

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women. That's simply a reality. I know there are people who deny that reality, but I think it is a reality." Jackson Lee, the veteran Texas congresswoman who has sponsored bills to legalize illegal immigrants and honor pedophile singer Michael Jackson, claims the 2019 VAWA is about protecting people and is therefore ["gender-neutral."](#)

Here are some other concerning additions in the reauthorization bill; Housing programs require mortgagors to require eviction prevention by including protection for "criminal activity." It also mandates that no person may deny tenancy or occupancy solely on the basis of criminal activity, including drug-related offenses. New gun provisions include a requirement that firearms be relinquished based on a broad definition of an "order" without notifying the accused.

Felony convictions are not required to relinquish firearms under the bill and guns can be confiscated based on any "protective" order, which can come from divorce proceedings or include temporary or consent orders. New employment standards expand labor laws to include victim service providers and unemployment compensation for "victims." It also requires employers to allow anyone who identifies as a victim to leave work and forces employers to continue to pay the said victim's salary.

## Daywatch Updates

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### Tom Fitton: Rosenstein Discussed a Coup

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "After the Bell" on the Fox Business Network to discuss whether there's a bureaucratic coup at the FBI and Department of Justice.

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### Tom Fitton on WMAL: Federal Court SLAMS Deep State Dishonesty on Clinton Emails

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "Mornings on the Mall" to discuss the latest developments on a recent court hearing about the Clinton email scandal.

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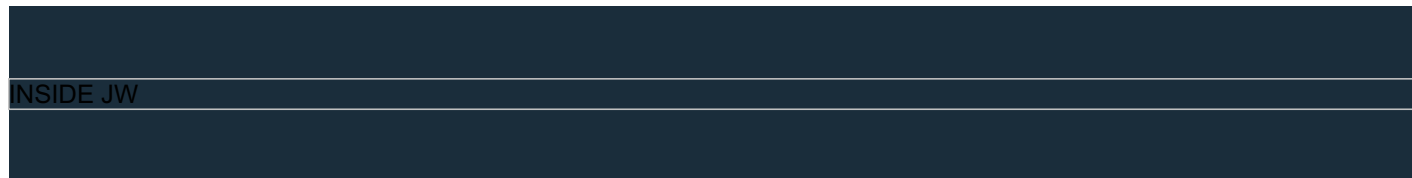
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**From:** Tom Fitton <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 04, 2019 6:00 PM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Major Victory for Cleaner Elections in CA

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## Major Victory for Cleaner Elections in CA

□

### Big JW Victory: California and Los Angeles County to Remove 1.5 Million Inactive Voters from Voter Rolls

Good news for the voters in California and across the country.

We have signed a [settlement agreement](#) with the State of California and the County of Los Angeles under which they will begin the process of removing from their voter registration rolls as many as 1.5 million inactive registered names that may be invalid.

These removals are required by the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA), a federal law requiring the removal of inactive registrations from the voter rolls after two general federal elections (encompassing from 2 to 4 years). Inactive voter registrations belong, for the most part, to voters who have moved to another county or state or have passed away.

Los Angeles County has over 10 million residents, more than the populations of 41 of the 50 United States. California is America's largest state, with almost 40 million residents.

We filed a 2017 federal [lawsuit](#) to force the cleanup of voter rolls ([Judicial Watch, Inc., et al. v. Dean C. Logan, et al.](#) (No. 2:17-cv-08948)). We sued on our own behalf and on behalf of Wolfgang Kupka, Rhue Guyant, Jerry Griffin, and Delores M. Mars, who are lawfully registered voters in Los Angeles County. We were joined by Election Integrity Project California, Inc., a public interest group that has long been involved in monitoring California's voter rolls.

In our lawsuit, we alleged:

- Los Angeles County has more voter registrations on its voter rolls than it has citizens who are old enough to register. Specifically, according to data provided to and published by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, Los Angeles County has a registration rate of 112 percent of its adult citizen population.
- The entire State of California has a registration rate of about 101 percent of its age-eligible citizenry.
- Eleven of California's 58 counties have registration rates exceeding 100 percent of the age-eligible citizenry.

The lawsuit confirmed that Los Angeles County has on its rolls more than 1.5 million potentially ineligible voters. This means that more than one out of every five LA County registrations likely belongs to a voter who has moved or is deceased. We noted: "Los Angeles County has the highest number of inactive registrations of any single county in the country."

Our lawsuit also uncovered that neither the State of California nor Los Angeles County had been removing inactive voters from the voter registration rolls for the past 20 years. The Supreme Court affirmed last year in [Husted v. A. Philip Randolph Inst.](#), 138 S. Ct. 1833 (2018) that the NVRA "makes this removal mandatory."

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The new settlement agreement, filed with U.S. District Court Judge Manuel L. Real, requires all of the 1.5 million potentially ineligible registrants to be notified and asked to respond. If there is no response, those names are to be removed as required by the NVRA. California Secretary of State Padilla also agrees to update the State's online NVRA manual to make clear that ineligible names must be removed and to notify each California county that they are obligated to do this. This should lead to cleaner voter rolls statewide.

Prior to this settlement agreement, we estimated that based on comparisons of national census data to voter-roll information, there were [3.5 million](#) more names on various county voter rolls than there were [citizens of voting age](#). This settlement could cut this number in half.

Judicial Watch Attorney Robert Popper is the director of our Election Integrity Project and led our legal team in this litigation. We were assisted in this case by Charles H. Bell Jr., of Bell, McAndrews & Hiltachk, LLP; and H. Christopher Coates of Law Office of H. Christopher Coates.

This is only the third statewide settlement achieved by private plaintiffs under the NVRA – and we were the plaintiff in each of those cases. The other statewide settlements are with [Ohio](#) (in 2014) and with [Kentucky](#) (2018), which agreed to a court-ordered consent decree.

You can take pride in knowing that we are the national leader in enforcing the list maintenance provisions of the NVRA. In addition to settlement agreements with Ohio and a win in Kentucky, we have filed a successful NVRA lawsuit against [Indiana](#), causing it to voluntarily clean up its voting rolls, and we have an ongoing lawsuit with the State of [Maryland](#).

We helped the State of Ohio successfully [defend](#) their settlement agreement before the Supreme Court. In [North Carolina](#), we supported implementation of the state's election integrity reform laws, filing *amicus* briefs in the Supreme Court in March 2017. And, in April 2018, we filed an *amicus* brief in the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals in support of [Alabama's voter ID](#) law. In [Georgia](#), we filed an *amicus* brief in support of Secretary Brian Kemp's list maintenance process against a lawsuit by left-wing groups. We won when the Supreme Court ruled in Ohio's favor.

This settlement vindicates our groundbreaking lawsuits to clean up state voter rolls to help ensure cleaner elections. We are thrilled with this historic settlement, which will set a nationwide precedent to ensure that states take reasonable steps to ensure that dead and other ineligible voters are removed from the rolls.

□

### Trump's HUD Keeps Obama's Funding for Radical Leftist groups

If I were Barack Obama, I would be pleased to see that many of the schemes I set up to funnel money to left wing groups are still in place two years into President Trump's presidency. Our *Corruption Chronicles* blog [illustrates](#) how The Swamp plunders on.

The Trump administration has dedicated another big chunk of taxpayer money to a controversial Obama housing project and the latest allocation gives millions to a leftwing group that advocates open borders, organizes pro-illegal immigrant marches across the country and promotes a radical Chicano curriculum in publicly-funded charter schools nationwide.

Known as [Choice Neighborhoods](#), the program aims to transform slums into desirable middle-class neighborhoods. The costly experiment was the centerpiece of a broader Obama initiative to convert poverty-stricken neighborhoods into sustainable, mixed-income areas with affordable housing, safe streets and good schools. It was launched as a collaboration between the departments of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Education, Justice, Treasury and Health and Human Services (HHS) to help attract private investment necessary to transform distressed areas.

During Obama's tenure, Choice Neighborhoods received a breathtaking \$375 million, according to HUD [figures](#). A

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substantial portion—\$120 million—was rewarded as a parting gift in 2016, the HUD numbers reveal and the largest chunk—\$122.27 million—was allocated in 2010 when Obama launched the program. Like many of the former president's initiatives, large sums of cash went to leftist nonprofits and community groups that aligned with his liberal agenda.

Back in 2012 Judicial Watch [reported](#) that the administration paid half a million dollars to study the effectiveness of Choice Neighborhoods, including the challenges of bringing healthy food options to poor areas and the characteristics of the neighborhoods being targeted for transformation.

Instead of cutting back on these dubious programs that give huge sums of taxpayer dollars to leftist groups, the Trump administration keeps filling their coffers. This month HUD announced more than \$60 million in grants for Choice Neighborhoods and other housing counseling grants. Among the recipients is the National Council of La Raza (NCLR), which recently changed its name to UNIDOS US. The renowned open borders group that specializes in promoting the Mexican La Raza ("the race") agenda is getting approximately \$2.6 million, according to [government records](#).

Other likeminded groups getting cash include the Refugee Family Assistance Program (\$32,000) and the Center for New York City Neighborhoods (\$16,000), which [lists](#) the Mutual Housing Association of New York (an Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now—ACORN—offshoot) as a partner. The center's board chair, [Herbert Sturz](#), is a senior advisor to the Open Society Foundations (OSF), the deeply politicized groups billionaire George Soros uses to promote his radical leftist agenda worldwide. Read all about it in a Judicial Watch [investigative report](#).

Earlier this year Trump's HUD gave Choice Neighborhoods a [\\$5 million](#) infusion to promote "a comprehensive approach to transforming neighborhoods struggling to address the interconnected challenges of distressed housing, inadequate schools, poor health, high crime, and lack of capital," according to a HUD [statement](#). Los Angeles California, Lewiston Maine and Philadelphia Pennsylvania got the biggest portions, \$1.3 million each. Chicago Illinois, Huntington West Virginia and Cleveland Ohio each got \$350,000 to revitalize poor neighborhoods. The goal is to replace distressed public housing with high-quality, mixed-income housing and improve residents' employment, income, health and education. Ultimately this is supposed to create the conditions necessary for public and private reinvestment in distressed neighborhoods. Three of the awardees received an additional \$950,000 for "action activities" to build momentum and attract additional investment, according to HUD. The extra cash can be used to recycle vacant properties into community gardens or farmers markets or for community arts projects that beautify an area.

Weeks earlier HUD gave dozens of leftist groups that purport to fight housing discrimination [\\$37 million](#). The biggest allocation—\$999,962—went to a nonprofit that attacked Trump for terminating an Obama program that protects hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants living in the U.S. Shortly before getting its money the Washington D.C. group, National Fair Housing Alliance (NFHA), bashed the president over a contentious policy known as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) that shields nearly 800,000 illegal aliens under the age of 31 from deportation and lets them obtain work permits and drivers' licenses. An administration that continues funding leftist housing programs carried out by groups hostile to the president makes you wonder if Trump knows what's going on under his nose?

Controversy is nothing new at HUD. The agency has been embroiled in a multitude of serious scandals—under both Democrat and Republican administrations—over the years involving leadership, low-level employees and field directors. Problems go back to the Ronald Reagan administration, when an influence-peddling scandal led to the conviction of 16 people, including top aides to then HUD Secretary Samuel Pierce. Bill Clinton's housing secretary, Henry Cisneros, pleaded guilty to lying to the FBI about payments to his former mistress. George W. Bush's HUD secretary, Alphonso Jackson, was ousted after the feds launched an investigation into his plots to enrich himself and his friends by giving them lucrative government contracts. Obama's second HUD secretary, Julian Castro, [misspent](#) the agency's federal funds as mayor of San Antonio.

This week the media assumed their usual posture of hysteria over President Trump's decision to withdraw our troops from Syria. Of course, I suspect they would have reacted the same way had he decided to send more troops there.

Ironically, the anti-Trump media gave Judicial Watch a chance to highlight the truth about the corrupt role of the Obama-Clinton administration in fostering war and terrorism in Syria on the heels of their Libya mess.

In 2015, we published some of the most important [documents](#) we have ever uncovered, and I don't say that lightly. These documents show that Obama was well aware that arms were going to the conflict in Syria -- out of Benghazi. They also show that the Obama administration, including then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, were warned about the rise of ISIS. And, they were supporting terrorists in the internecine warfare in Syria.

This was a Defense Intelligence Agency report. And you know who ran the DIA then: General Michael Flynn. No wonder Obama didn't like him. No wonder he was pushed out and ultimately prosecuted.

This mess was created by the Obama administration, and it led to massive refugee flows. The reason we're in Syria is that Obama and Clinton allowed the destruction of Libya. They turned Libya over to the terrorists, and it became a funnel for terrorists to enter into the Syrian conflict. And that led to the rise of ISIS. It's for exposing this that I believe Flynn has been on the Obama naughty list.

The truth will ultimately out. Indeed, I discussed this issue in our [Weekly Update](#) video last week and again on *Tucker Carlson Tonight* this week on Fox News.

Until next week ...

▣

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: At this Point, Mueller Probe is 'Harassment'

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on "Fox & Friends First" weighed in on the special counsel probe's impact over the last year and what it could mean for Mueller's final report, reportedly expected by February.

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### Chris Farrell: DOJ's Bruce Ohr is the 'Lynchpin' in the Trump Dossier

August 17, 2018- JW Director of Investigations and Research Chris Farrell appeared on "Lou Dobbs Tonight" on the Fox

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Business Network to discuss why the Trump dossier circles around DOJ official Bruce Ohr.

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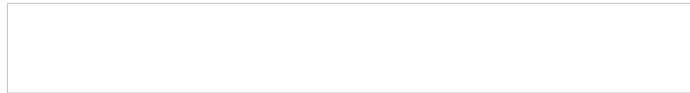
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**From:** Ed Feulner <info@heritage.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 15, 2017 1:07 PM EDT  
**To:** Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Midnight deadline

**DEADLINE: MIDNIGHT TONIGHT**



Robert,

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Onward!

Ed Feulner  
President

The Heritage Foundation



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**From:** JW Corruption Chronicles <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Friday, January 11, 2019 2:18 PM EST

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** Migrants from Terrorist Nations Try to Enter U.S. Via Mexico at Record Rates—300% Hike in Bangladeshis in Texas Alone

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CORRUPTION CHRONICLES

## Migrants from Terrorist Nations Try to Enter U.S. Via Mexico at Record Rates—300% Hike in Bangladeshis in Texas Alone

Federal agents along the southern border routinely encounter individuals from terrorist nations and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) considers them one of the top threats to the United States, according to a congressional report made public this month. Titled "[Stopping Terrorist Travel Through Illicit Pathways to the Homeland](#)," the document outlines the findings of a lengthy investigation involving Special Interest Aliens (SIA) by the House Homeland Security Committee.

SIA's are individuals from countries outside the western hemisphere—mostly the Middle East, Asia and Africa—that pose a national security risk to the U.S. In Laredo, Texas alone there was an astounding 300% increase in immigrants from Bangladesh, a south Asian Islamic country well known as a recruiting ground for terrorist groups such as ISIS and Al-Qaeda Indian Subcontinent (AQIS).

Congressional investigators found that the number of SIAs flowing north via Latin America has increased tremendously in the last few years thanks to established Transitional Criminal Organizations (TCO) that facilitate travel along drug and migrant smuggling routes. "On a recent Committee staff delegation trip to Latin America, Panamanian officials communicated to Committee staff that tens of thousands of SIAs have entered Panama since 2014," the report states. "Colombian officials communicated similar numbers to Committee staff, stating that hundreds of SIAs have entered Colombia each year for the past few years. In both countries, nearly all the SIA migrants were headed to the United States and originated from the Middle East, Asia, and Africa—including Syria, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Somalia, Bangladesh, India, Eritrea, and many others. Additionally, encounters with these special interest individuals resulted in the seizure of tens of thousands of fraudulent documents—including passports and visas—that facilitated travel from their countries of origin through the Americas."

The report includes several disturbing cases of Islamic terrorists who made it to the U.S. via Mexico. Among them are Mohammad Aldairi, a Jordanian arrested last summer in New York for illegally smuggling SIAs from Yemen across the U.S.-Mexico border into Texas.

Others include Pakistani Sharafat Ali Khan, convicted for smuggling fellow Pakistanis with terrorism ties into the U.S.; Somalian Abdullah Omar Fidse, a member of the al-Shabaab terrorist group; Somalian Ahmed Muhammed Dhakane, a member al-Qaeda linked al-Barakat and Al-Ittihad Al-Islami and Lebanese Mahmoud Yousef Kourani, a fighter, recruiter and fundraiser for Hezbollah.

Kourani paid a Beirut consular officer \$3,000 for a Mexican visa and an additional \$4,000 to be smuggled across the U.S.-Mexico border, according to information included in the report. Some of the other SIAs also operated smuggling rings through south and central America.

“Latin America and the Caribbean are the major initial entry points to the Western Hemisphere for SIAs,” the House Homeland Security Committee report states. “Many countries in the region continue to face economic and governance challenges, as well as consistently high levels of violent crime. Additionally, many of the countries in the Americas have lenient visa and immigration policies in place, even for individuals from ‘special interest’ countries.

Lastly, the frequency of international flights from ‘special interest’ regions around the world into Latin America and the Caribbean continues to increase. These regional issues create an attractive environment for illicit travel of SIAs and other nefarious actors into the Western Hemisphere with the end goal of reaching the United States.”

Adding to the problem is that Hezbollah is “growing at an alarming rate in Latin America,” according to Committee investigators. “Designated as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) by the State Department, Hezbollah has been operating in Latin America since the early 1990s when it worked with Iran to carry out the 1994 bombing of a Jewish Community Center in Argentina,” according to the report.

The House investigation found that, as of September 2018, a record 630 Bangladeshi nationals have been arrested trying to enter the U.S. illegally in Laredo, Texas alone. That marks a 300% increase from the previous year. “The routes facilitating the illicit travel of these Bangladeshis are mostly controlled by TCOs and drug cartels, which charge tens of thousands of dollars to smuggle SIAs and other migrants across the U.S.,” the committee writes.

It also confirms what Judicial Watch [reported](#) months ago, that the recent migrant caravan has included several SIAs and suspected terrorists. Judicial Watch traveled to the Guatemala-Honduras border back in October and government sources in Guatemala confirmed that SIAs waiting to get smuggled into the U.S. through Central America integrated with poor Hondurans in the caravan. Among them were nationals of Bangladesh, which appears on the Treasury Office of Foreign Asset Control’s Counter Terrorism Designations [list](#).

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton on WMAL: Federal Court SLAMS Deep State Dishonesty on Clinton Emails

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Mornings on the Mall” to discuss the latest developments on a recent court hearing about the Clinton email scandal.

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### Tom Fitton: A DOJ Spying Investigation would be a Win for the Rule of Law

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Fox and Friends” on the Fox News Channel to discuss President Trump’s request for a DOJ probe into whether the FBI infiltrated his campaign.

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**From:** Twitter <info@twitter.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 09, 2017 9:51 PM EDT  
**To:** Hinson, Linda <LHinson@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Mike Hogan Tweeted: Greetings, Duval County, Our office partners with our local sports teams for community events whenever possible....

Your Highlights

 **Mike Hogan**  
@DuvalCountySOE

Greetings, Duval County,  
Our office partners with our local sports teams for community events whenever possible.... [fb.me/6dagQn1By](https://fb.me/6dagQn1By)

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@theblaze

New York Attorney General now targeting Eric Trump's charitable foundation [buff.ly/2t4rlnF](https://buff.ly/2t4rlnF)

 36  27  24

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[heritage.org](https://www.heritage.org)

 16  98  220

 **Tim Tebow Foundatio..**  
@tebowfoundation

#FBF to when we first met our newest W15H friend, Colby! We hope this weekend w/ [@TimTebow](#) in Columbia will be filled with #FaithHopeLove!

 6  29  170

 **D1 Waco**  
@d1sportswaco

Had the honor of being on [@kwtx](#) Morning Buzz! No better way to end the week fam! Here's the link to watch! [kwtx.com/content/news/M...](https://kwtx.com/content/news/M...)  
[@D1Sports](#)

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 **Allen West**   
@AllenWest

Just in: Look who else CNN FINALLY fired...[allenbwest.com/matt-palumbo/j...](https://allenbwest.com/matt-palumbo/j...)

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**From:** Twitter <info@twitter.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2017 4:15 PM EDT  
**To:** Hinson, Linda <LHinson@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Mike Hogan Tweeted: Happy noon, Duval County, It's almost November, and that means Election Day, Tuesday, November 7, is almost here....

## Your Highlights

**Mike Hogan**

@DuvalCountySOE

Happy noon, Duval County,  
It's almost November, and that means Election Day, Tuesday, November 7, is almost here.... [fb.me/8EsRqTRle](https://fb.me/8EsRqTRle)



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Next week: The Business Perspective and Cost of Doing Nothing on Tax Reform

**The Business Perspective and Cost of Doing Nothing on Tax Reform | The Heritage Foundation**

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Left-wing protesters invade College Republicans meeting, reportedly declare 'dialogue is violence'

**Left-wing protesters invade College Republicans meeting, reportedly declare 'dialogue is violence'**

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FBI agents arrest 3rd HPD officer in connection with Kealoha probe - [#GoogleAlerts](#)

**FBI agents arrest 3rd HPD officer in connection with Kealoha probe**

FBI agents arrested a third Honolulu Police Department officer today in connection with the f... [more](#)

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**From:** JW Corruption Chronicles <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 4:31 PM EDT

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** Most of the \$33 Billion in Remittances to Mexico Flow Via U.S. Govt. Banking Program

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CORRUPTION CHRONICLES

## Most of the \$33 Billion in Remittances to Mexico Flow Via U.S. Govt. Banking Program

Though President Trump said he would [block](#) money transfers to Mexico to fund a much-needed border wall, Mexicans in the U.S. sent a record \$33.48 billion in remittances last year and a big chunk of it flowed through a government program operated by the Federal Reserve.

This means that, amid an onslaught of illegal immigration, the U.S. government is largely responsible for the billions in remittances flowing south of the border from illegal aliens. [Figures](#) released by Mexico's central bank show that 104 million transactions were executed in 2018, nearly six million more than the previous year.

Uncle Sam facilitates the process with a program called "[Directo a Mexico](#)" (Direct to Mexico), launched by the Federal Reserve, the government agency that serves as the nation's central bank, more than a decade ago. President George W. Bush came up with the idea following the 2001 U.S.-Mexico Partnership for Prosperity to provide low-cost banking services to illegal immigrants and facilitate the procedure for those sending money home.

In its first year, 2005, remittances to Mexico topped [\\$20 billion](#) and the Federal Reserve reports "double-digit percentage growth for the past several years." Remittances are transferred through the Federal Reserve's own automated clearinghouse linked directly to Mexico's central bank (Banco de Mexico). The Trump administration should eliminate it because it undermines our nation's immigration laws and is a potential national security nightmare.

Back in 2006 Judicial Watch investigated the outrageous taxpayer-subsidized initiative and obtained [government records](#) that shed light on how it functions. Marketing materials target immigrant workers in the U.S.—regardless of their legal status—as well as banks, credit unions and other financial institutions.

The program is promoted as "the best way to send money home," offering "more pesos for every dollar." American financial institutions are charged \$0.67 per item to transfer money from the United States to Mexican banks, ensuring a "highly competitive rate." The Federal Reserve also provides participating U.S. financial institutions with Spanish language promotional materials to "help get your message out." The marketing materials also include the number of Mexican migrants in the U.S. with no distinction between those here illegally or not. A separate list identifies thousands of Mexican banks receiving "Directo a México" transfers.

When the program was created Federal Reserve officials acknowledged that most of the Mexican nationals who send money back home are [illegal immigrants](#) so a Mexican-issued identification is the only requirement to use the government banking service. A colorful brochure promoting "Directo a Mexico" offered to help immigrants who don't have bank accounts and assured the best foreign exchange rate and low transfer fees.

A frequently asked question section posed this: "If I return to Mexico or am deported, will I lose the money in my bank account?" The answer: "No. The money still belongs to you and can easily be accessed at an ATM in Mexico using your debit card." In short, the U.S. created this special banking system specifically for illegal aliens and tens of billions of dollars

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have streamed through it.

As a presidential candidate Trump proposed a plan to get Mexico to fund a border wall by cutting off remittance payments from Mexican migrants in the U.S. In a [memo](#) to a mainstream newspaper Trump wrote that Mexican migrants send \$24 billion in remittances annually and the estimated cost of a border wall would be between \$5 billion and \$10 billion.

According to his plan, the [U.S. Patriot Act](#) would be amended to block wire transfers from Mexican nationals using companies such as Western Union. Nowhere in the document is the Federal Reserve's special program, which clearly caters to illegal immigrants. The president is well aware that the overwhelming majority of remittances to Mexico are sent by those living in the U.S. illegally.

In fact, his proposal was to create a rule that "no alien may wire money outside of the United States unless the alien first provides a document establishing his lawful presence in the United States." The Federal Reserve's "Directo a Mexico" has no such requirement as the commander-in-chief completes his first term.

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: At this Point, Mueller Probe is 'Harassment'

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on "Fox & Friends First" weighed in on the special counsel probe's impact over the last year and what it could mean for Mueller's final report, reportedly expected by February.

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### Tom Fitton: Rosenstein Discussed a Coup

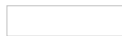
JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "After the Bell" on the Fox Business Network to discuss whether there's a bureaucratic coup at the FBI and Department of Justice.

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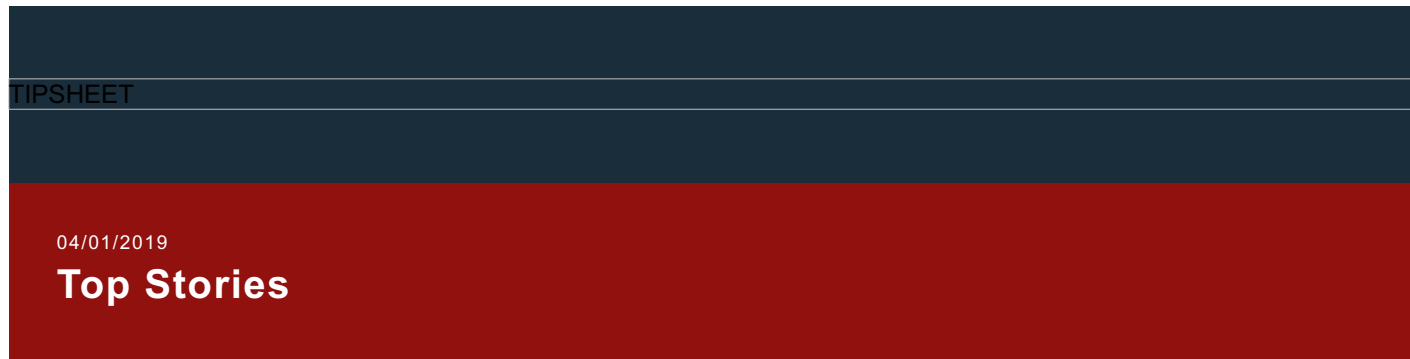
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**From:** JW Tipsheet <jw@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2019 11:46 AM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Mueller Report Exonerates President Trump

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IMAGE

### Mueller Report Exonerates President Trump

The fizzling out of the corrupt Mueller investigation is great victory for the rule of law and our constitutional republic. Here is the statement I issued in response Attorney General Barr’s initial summary of the special counsel’s report...

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### JW Sues for Details of an Intelligence Office Meeting with FBI Regarding Security Threats Caused by Clinton

Judicial Watch announced today that it is suing the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) for details of a meeting with the FBI regarding national security threats associated with former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton’s “private” email system...

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### Three Soros Campaigns to Further Advance the Left’s Radical Agenda

Three new George Soros campaigns to further advance the left's radical agenda have been uncovered in separate news reports published this week...

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## **JW Sues for Records of Communication Between James Clapper, John Brennan and CNN**

Judicial Watch announced today it has filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit against the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) seeking records of communications between former Director of National Intelligence James Clapper...

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## **Must Read**

**Lindsay Graham Says AG Barr 'Pretty Upset' over FBI's Hillary Clinton Email Investigation**— *Daily Caller*— Republican South Carolina Sen. Lindsey Graham contemplated the possibility of a special counsel investigating Hillary Clinton's private email server during a Sunday interview... [Read more](#)

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**Judicial Watch's Fitton Blasts DOJ for 'Protecting Obama and Clinton' in Email Case**— *Epoch Times*— Attorney General William Barr "did the right thing on the Mueller report," but "he's got to look at how [the Department of Justice] is handling these transparency issues and why they are protecting Obama and Clinton," Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton told The Epoch Times on March 26... [Read more](#)

## **Must Watch**

**Tom Fitton: Mueller was a 'Tool of the Coup Plotters' to Target President Trump**- April 1, 2019 [Watch Now!](#)

**Tom Fitton: Media Knew Russian Collusion Was a Lie**- March 28, 2019- [Watch Now!](#)

**Tom Fitton: Long National Nightmare Over**- March 22, 2019- [Watch Now!](#)

**"POTUS Wants to Know Everything" — What DID Obama Know about Trump Targeting?**- March 28, 2019- [Watch Now!](#)

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### Tom Fitton: At Least 11 FBI Payments went to Steele

August 5, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Fox and Friends” on the Fox News Channel to discuss The FBI released 71 pages of redacted documents tied to the bureau’s relationship with Christopher Steele.

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### Tom Fitton: El Paso Region is ‘Freeway’ for Drug/Human Trafficking & Terrorism

February 11, 2019- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Lou Dobbs Tonight” on the Fox Business Network to discuss a ‘sophisticated narco-terror network’ in El Paso, TX.

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**From:** JW Newslink <press@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 12, 2019 3:59 PM EDT

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** NewsLink: Fed-Up House Republican Releases Bruce Ohr Testimony Showing Major Conflict of Interest

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NEWSLINK

## BREAKING NEWS...

600x300

### Fed-Up House Republican Releases Bruce Ohr Testimony Showing Major Conflict of Interest

Source: [PJ Media](#)

Rep. Doug Collins (R-Ga.) unilaterally released the transcript of an August 2018 interview with Justice Department official Bruce Ohr, in which Ohr revealed that former British spy Christopher Steele was simultaneously paid by both the FBI and the Democrat opposition research firm Fusion GPS during the 2016 election.

☐ READ  
MORE

## Background Notes from Judicial Watch

180x150x1

2019-03-07

**Judicial Watch**

**Uncovers Numerous**

**Bruce Ohr**

**Communications**

**with Fusion GPS and**

**Christopher Steele**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000564



Documents reveal that former Associate Deputy Attorney General Bruce Ohr remained in regular contact with former British spy and Fusion GPS contractor Christopher Steele after Steele was terminated by the FBI in November 2016 for revealing to the media his position as an FBI confidential informant.

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180x150x2

2018-09-12

### **Judicial Watch Sues for FBI 302**

#### **Interviews with Justice Department Official Bruce Ohr**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Judicial Watch sued for details of the “302” reports from the FBI interview with Bruce Ohr, who was removed from his position as U.S. Associate Deputy Attorney General in December 2017. The interviews could be key to understanding how anti-Trump dossier author, British spy Christopher Steele’s information was transmitted to the FBI.

☐ [READ MORE](#)

180x150x3

2018-08-09

### **Judicial Watch Sues for Communications between Bruce and Nellie Ohr, Christopher Steele,**

## and Fusion GPS

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

The House Intelligence Committee memo released by Chairman Devin Nunes on February 2 says that Nellie Ohr was “employed by Fusion GPS to assist in the cultivation of opposition research on Trump” and that Bruce Ohr passed the results of that research, which was paid for by the Democratic National Committee (DNC) and the Hillary Clinton campaign, to the FBI.

 [READ MORE](#)

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Bruce Ohr to face grilling on Capitol amid revelations of communications with ex-British spy Steele

Justice Department official Bruce Ohr is set to testify during a closed-door session of the House Oversight Committee, where he will face a grilling about his involvement with ex-British spy Christopher Steele—the author of the salacious Trump dossier. Republicans will likely allege that Ohr played a pivotal role in selling the unverified dossier, created by Fusion GPS – where his wife Nellie Ohr worked – and paid for by Hillary Clinton's campaign and the Democratic National Committee.

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**From:** Christie Fogarty <info@heritage.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 28, 2016 11:17 AM EST  
**To:** Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Not a done deal

Robert,

I just wanted to connect and see if you'll be able to donate towards The Heritage Foundation's million-dollar goal by the December 31 deadline.

Your gift means Heritage will hit the ground running in 2017 with the proven conservative leadership needed to rebuild America.

Our first priority is to repeal Obamacare immediately. We need your help to educate and advise key players in the Trump administration and Congress on how to successfully repeal Obamacare.

Your [year-end donation](#) enables us to reach policymakers at this critical time. Thanks to your support, repeal is in sight, but not a done deal.

It's a crucial year and Heritage is "all in" to see conservative principles triumph. But we need you with us to succeed.

You can make your year-end donation here: [myheritage.org/stand-with-heritage](http://myheritage.org/stand-with-heritage)

Thank you,

Christie Fogarty  
Director of Membership  
The Heritage Foundation

The Heritage Foundation

You are subscribed to Heritage Foundation e-mails as phillips@coj.net. If you'd rather not hear from me again, you can respond back to this email or [click here to update your preferences](#).

-

**From:** JW Corruption Chronicles <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 19, 2018 10:17 AM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Obama's Mexican Gunrunning Op Could Help Sinaloa Drug Lord's Defense

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CORRUPTION CHRONICLES

## Obama's Mexican Gunrunning Op Could Help Sinaloa Drug Lord's Defense

Obama's scandalous Mexican gunrunning operation could help in the defense of a notorious drug lord on trial in New York and the feds are trying to ban its mention in the courtroom. It's yet another ripple effect of a shameful Obama experiment known as Fast and Furious that let Mexican drug traffickers obtain U.S.-sold weapons.

The failed program was run by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) and allowed guns from the U.S. to be smuggled into Mexico so they could eventually be traced to drug cartels. Instead, federal law enforcement officers lost track of hundreds of weapons which were used in an unknown number of crimes, including the murder of U.S. Border Patrol agent Brian Terry in Arizona.

Now Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, head of the Sinaloa drug cartel, wants to use Fast and Furious to strengthen his defense. The Sinaloa cartel is one of Mexico's most powerful criminal organizations and Guzman has been charged with a [multitude of crimes](#), including drug trafficking, illegal firearms, money laundering, and conspiracy.

Federal prosecutors say Guzman smuggled enormous amounts of cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine, and marijuana into the U.S. and, as the leader of a multi-national criminal enterprise, used violence—including torture and murder—to maintain an iron-fisted grip on the drug trade across the U.S.-Mexico border. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) refers to Guzman as one of the most dangerous and feared drug kingpins. He was extradited from Mexico last year.

In 2016, Judicial Watch obtained [Justice Department documents](#) showing that Fast and Furious weapons have been widely used by members of major Mexican drug cartels, including Guzman. The documents reveal that 94 Fast and Furious firearms have been recovered in Mexico City and 12 Mexican states, with the majority being seized in Sonora, Chihuahua, and Sinaloa. Of the weapons recovered, 82 were rifles and 12 were pistols. Twenty were involved in "violent recoveries," which means they were utilized in several mass killings.

Among them was a .50 caliber rifle seized from Guzman's hideout in Los Mochis, Sinaloa, where he was eventually arrested. Guzman's attorneys want to use Fast and Furious as part of the defense strategy, according to a [New York newspaper](#) covering the trial, and federal prosecutors are trying to stop it. "They're asking a federal judge to block any defense questions about the program in which federal agents allowed illegal weapons to flow over the border to Mexico in an effort to gain intelligence on drug cartels," the article states. Why? Prosecutors assert that, by focusing on the failures of the Fast and Furious (and there are many), Guzman will "distract and confuse the jury."

The government pulled the same stunt when two of the men involved in Terry's murder were tried in federal court. A seasoned Border Patrol agent and Marine Corps veteran, Terry was killed by a Mexican gang member in 2010 in Peck Canyon, Arizona. Federal authorities say he was [fatally shot](#) when he and other agents encountered a group of men known as a "rip crew" (a criminal gang that attempts to steal from drug and alien smugglers) operating in a rural area north of Nogales.

The guns—assault weapons known as AK-47s—were traced through their serial numbers to a Glendale, Arizona dealer that led to a Phoenix man the feds repeatedly allowed to smuggle firearms into Mexico. Six men have been charged with crimes involving Terry’s murder and earlier this year, the assailant was extradited from Mexico. A few years ago, when two members of the rip crew were tried in connection to Terry’s murder, federal prosecutors asked the judge to ban mentioning Fast and Furious during proceedings.

The judge agreed, [ruling](#) that defendants could not refer to or elicit any testimony regarding the failed gunrunning operation. Terry’s brother, Kent Terry, told Judicial Watch the government wants to keep Fast and Furious out of the limelight for political reasons. “It’s upsetting,” Kent Terry said this week. “If I commit a crime with a gun don’t you think it’s relevant to ask where I got that gun? They’re protecting the criminal.”

Even Mexican media has reported that the Sinaloa drug cartel was able to access more weapons thanks to Operation Fast and Furious. One outlet published an in-depth piece [titled “Fast and Furious: Arms for El Chapo”](#) that reveals U.S. intelligence agencies knew from the start that the Sinaloa cartel was the prime recipient of weapons. Regardless, the U.S. continued the operation and lied to the Mexican government, the article states.

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: Robert Mueller is Being Protected by Rod Rosenstein over Trump/Russia Probe

October 23, 2018 – JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Daily Ledger” on One America News Network to discuss the Mueller Probe and Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein’s closed congressional testimony.

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Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: Hillary Clinton Should Testify Under Oath

October 3, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Mornings on the Mall” on WMAL to discuss the 288 newly uncovered Hillary Clinton emails containing classified information.

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Article-Image

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**From:** JW On the Air Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019 5:18 PM EDT

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** On the Air Report - Tom Fitton: Key FBI Officials Were ‘Bending over Backwards’ to Protect Hillary Clinton (VIDEO)

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INSIDE JW

## Tom Fitton: Key FBI Officials Were ‘Bending over Backwards’ to Protect Hillary Clinton

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Lou Dobbs Tonight” on the Fox Business Network to discuss former FBI lawyer Lisa Page’s testimony on Capitol Hill and special counsel Robert Mueller’s Russia probe.



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**From:** JW On Watch <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Monday, March 25, 2019 2:00 PM EDT

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** On Watch: Designating Cartels "Terrorist Organizations" & Re-Evaluating Mexico's Trafficking Record (VIDEO)

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INSIDE JW

## On Watch: Designating Cartels "Terrorist Organizations" & Re-Evaluating Mexico's Trafficking Record

□

Though a critical ally and trading partner, Mexico presents unique challenges and risks to the national security of the United States. Two of the issue areas in which this is most evident are the threats posed by Mexican transnational criminal organizations (TCOs) and the tremendous scale of human trafficking in the country.

Read more about Judicial Watch's report on TCOs & human trafficking [HERE](#).

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Chris Farrell: American People saw Through the Democrats' Actions During Kavanaugh Process

October 8, 2018- Judicial Watch Director of Investigations and Research Chris Farrell appeared on "Lou Dobbs Tonight" on the Fox Business Network to discuss the Democrats' attacks against Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh.

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Article-Image

### Chris Farrell on Trump/Russia Probe: "There are two sides" to Fmr. FBI Director Robert Mueller

"While I'm pleased that [Mueller] is leading an effort to clear up what I believe is really nonsense concerning Russia & Trump allegations, there is a peculiar backstory..." —Judicial Watch Director of Investigations Chris Farrell

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**From:** JW On Watch <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 4:25 PM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** On Watch: How Donald Trump was Targeted by the FBI

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## On Watch: How Donald Trump was Targeted by the FBI

In this episode of “On Watch,” Judicial Watch Director of Investigations & Research discusses how the FBI abused counter-intelligence policies to target Donald Trump.

### Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

#### FBI Begins Releasing Strzok-Page Communications, DOJ Objects to Preservation Order

Judicial Watch received 87 pages of records from the Department of Justice revealing former top FBI official Peter Strzok and FBI attorney Lisa Page’s profanity-laced disdain for FBI hierarchy and policies. The DOJ, meanwhile, is resisting Judicial Watch’s request for a court order to preserve all responsive Page-Strzok communications.

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Article-Image

#### Comey’s private memos on Trump conversations contained classified material

More than half of the memos former FBI chief James Comey wrote as personal recollections of his conversations with President Trump about the Russia investigation have been determined to contain classified information, according to interviews with officials familiar with the documents. This revelation raises the possibility that Comey broke his own agency’s rules .

Article-Image

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**From:** JW On Watch <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Thursday, January 24, 2019 2:01 PM EST

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** On Watch: Pandemic Influenza & U.S. Public Health Readiness with Dr. Steven Hatfill, M.D.

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INSIDE JW

## On Watch: Pandemic Influenza & U.S. Public Health Readiness with Dr. Steven Hatfill, M.D.

□

Flu season is here, and in this episode of "On Watch," JW Director of Investigations & Research Chris Farrell joins Dr. Steven Hatfill, M.D. to discuss America's readiness in combating an influenza pandemic similar to the Spanish Flu of 1918—and the likelihood of it occurring again.

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: At Least 11 FBI Payments went to Steele

August 5, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "Fox and Friends" on the Fox News Channel to discuss The FBI released 71 pages of redacted documents tied to the bureau's relationship with Christopher Steele.

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Article-Image

### Chris Farrell: Bruce Ohr is the Linchpin of the Steel Dossier Controversy

JW Director of Investigations and Research Chris Farrell appeared on "Lou Dobbs Tonight" on the Fox Business Network to discuss Bruce Ohr and Fusion GPS.

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**From:** Tom Fitton <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 17, 2019 9:18 AM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Over 30 lawsuits against the Deep State

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Judicial Watch

Dear Fellow American,

I need your help.

Right now, Judicial Watch is in federal court with over 30 separate lawsuits to get to the truth behind a serious threat to our constitutional republic.

These lawsuits can help expose the illicit Deep State conspiracy to abuse government powers to target the Trump presidency.

Our lawsuits against the FBI, Justice Department and other federal deep state agencies all deal with one or more aspect of the unprecedented affront to the rule of law and to the American people's right to lawfully elect their president!

[Please, I urge you to help us today with a special contribution to help us fight in federal court.](#)

CONTRIBUTE

It is time to confront illegal secrecy in government.

***If the rule of law is to survive, if America's constitutional protections are to endure, it is essential to roll back the sinister secrecy that allows – indeed encourages – those operating in the Deep State to hold themselves above the law and beyond the Constitution.***

And that's why Judicial Watch is in court day after day shining the light on the activities of the Deep State.

[Can we count on your support to expose the truth behind the Deep State?](#)

Judicial Watch is conservative, but we are not partisan. Our allegiance is to the rule of law and the American people's right to know.

As I said earlier, Judicial Watch has over 30 separate lawsuits to uncover the truth about the Deep State. And I can promise you more Judicial Watch lawsuits are on the way so that we can get to the truth behind this illicit conspiracy.

[That's why I hope you can help with a special contribution today.](#)

Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,

Thomas Fitton  
President  
Judicial Watch

## CONTRIBUTE

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**From:** JW Action <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 15, 2019 3:55 PM EST

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** President Trump Retweets Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton on Border and Russian Collusion

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Web Version

[Judicial Watch' />](#)

## **President Trump Retweets Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton on Border and Russian Collusion**

Dear Judicial Watch Supporter,

Yesterday, President Trump retweeted Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton twice. One tweet was Fitton's Fox News appearance discussing the Russian Investigation and the Deep State and the other was Judicial Watch's Weekly Update video in which Fitton discussed the Border crisis and the need for a wall.

The full text of President Trump's retweets are below:

□

[Will you help continue our work with  
your most generous gift today?](#)

Thank you for your support of Judicial Watch. You are making an impact!

Sincerely,

Carter Clews  
Director of Communications

[ACT02](#)

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[judicialwatch.org](http://judicialwatch.org)

**From:** JW Action <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 17, 2019 10:34 AM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** President Trump ThreeTweets Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton on Russia, DOJ Collusion to Protect Hillary, and the Asylum Scam Crackdown

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**President  
Trump ThreeTweets Judicial  
Watch President Tom Fitton  
on Russia, DOJ Collusion to  
Protect Hillary, and the  
Asylum Scam Crackdown**

Dear Judicial Watch Supporter,

Yesterday, President Trump retweeted Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton three times. One tweet was Fitton's Fox Business appearance discussing the Russian Investigation. The second was a Judicial Watch's Weekly Update video in which Fitton in which Tom Fitton discussed the DOJ collusion to protect the Hillary Clinton campaign. The third was a comment on the President's crackdown on asylum scamming.

The full text of President Trump's retweets are below:

[Tweets](#)

[Will you help continue our work with your most generous gift today?](#)

Thank you for your support of Judicial Watch. You are making an impact!

Sincerely,

Carter Clews  
Director of Communications

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**From:** Beth France <beth.france@americanoversight.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2019 3:25 PM EDT  
**To:** Hogan, Mike <MHogan@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Public Records Request  
**Attachment(s):** "FL-DUVAL-19-0522.pdf"

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Dear Public Records Officer:

Please find attached a request for records under Florida's public records law.

Sincerely,

Beth France  
Counsel  
American Oversight  
[foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org) | 202.897.2465  
[www.americanoversight.org](http://www.americanoversight.org) | @weareoversight

FL-DUVAL-19-0522



April 22, 2019

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Mike Hogan  
Duval County Supervisor of Elections  
105 East Monroe Street  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
[mhogan@coj.net](mailto:mhogan@coj.net)

**Re: Public Records Request**

Dear Public Records Officer:

Pursuant to the Florida's public records law, as codified at Fla. Stat. Chapter 119, American Oversight makes the following request for public records.

**Requested Records**

American Oversight requests that Duval County promptly produce the following:

All communications (including emails, email attachments, text messages, calendar invitations/entries, letters, memoranda, or other communications) between any county elections official and any of the individuals or entities listed below:

- Kris Kobach (including communications from [kkobach@gmail.com](mailto:kkobach@gmail.com), [kris@kriskobach.com](mailto:kris@kriskobach.com), or any email addresses ending in ks.gov)
- J. (John) Christian Adams
- Hans von Spakovsky
- John R. Lott Jr.
- Ken Block
- Donal Palmer
- Robert Popper
- Catherine Engelbrecht
- Christy McCormick (including communications with [cacm@aol.com](mailto:cacm@aol.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of the Election Law Center ([electionlawcenter.com](http://electionlawcenter.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of the Government Accountability Institute ([g-a-i.org](http://g-a-i.org))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Simpatico Software Systems ([simpaticosoftware.com](http://simpaticosoftware.com))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Judicial Watch ([judicialwatch.org](http://judicialwatch.org))
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Heritage Foundation ([heritage.org](http://heritage.org))



- Anyone communicating on behalf of Heritage Action for America (heritageaction.com)
- Anyone communicating on behalf of Public Interest Legal Foundation (publicinterestlegal.org)
- Anyone communicating on behalf of American Civil Rights Union (theacru.org)
- Anyone communicating on behalf of True The Vote (truethevote.org)

American Oversight believes that your office is the most likely location for the records it seeks. However, if other county boards, commissions, offices, departments, or divisions are likely to possess records responsive to this request, American Oversight asks that you forward this request to those boards, commissions, offices, departments, or divisions or promptly notify American Oversight so that it may submit this request directly to those boards, commissions, offices, departments, or divisions.

Please provide all responsive records from November 9, 2016, to the date the search is conducted.

American Oversight seeks all responsive records regardless of format, medium, or physical characteristics. In conducting your search, please understand the term “record” in its broadest sense, to include any written, typed, recorded, graphic, printed, or audio material of any kind. We seek records of any kind, including electronic records, audiotapes, videotapes, and photographs, as well as letters, emails, facsimiles, telephone messages, voice mail messages and transcripts, notes, or minutes of any meetings, telephone conversations or discussions. Our request includes any attachments to these records. **No category of material should be omitted from search, collection, and production.**

In addition, American Oversight insists that your office use the most up-to-date technologies to search for responsive information and take steps to ensure that the most complete repositories of information are searched. American Oversight is available to work with you to craft appropriate search terms. **However, custodian searches are still required; governmental authorities may not have direct access to files stored in .PST files, outside of network drives, in paper format, or in personal email accounts.**

Please search all records regarding official business, **including files or emails in the personal custody of your officials, such as personal email accounts.**

In the event some portions of the requested records are properly exempt from disclosure, please disclose any reasonably segregable non-exempt portions of the requested records. If it is your position that a document contains non-exempt segments, but that those non-exempt segments are so dispersed throughout the document as to make segregation impossible, please state what portion of the document is non-exempt, and how the material is dispersed throughout the document. If a request is denied in whole, please state specifically that it is not reasonable to segregate portions of the record for release.

Please take appropriate steps to ensure that records responsive to this request are not deleted by your office before the completion of processing for this request. If records potentially responsive to

this request are likely to be located on systems where they are subject to potential deletion, including on a scheduled basis, please take steps to prevent that deletion, including, as appropriate, by instituting a litigation hold on those records.

To ensure that this request is properly construed, that searches are conducted in an adequate but efficient manner, and that extraneous costs are not incurred, American Oversight welcomes an opportunity to discuss its request with you before you undertake your search or incur search or duplication costs. By working together at the outset, American Oversight and the Department of State can decrease the likelihood of costly and time-consuming litigation in the future.

Where possible, please provide responsive material in electronic format by email or in PDF or TIF format on a USB drive. Please send any responsive material being sent by mail to American Oversight, 1030 15th Street NW, Suite B255, Washington, DC 20005. If it will accelerate release of responsive records to American Oversight, please also provide responsive material on a rolling basis.

### **Conclusion**

We share a common mission to promote transparency in government. American Oversight looks forward to working with your office on this request. If you do not understand any part of this request, have any questions, or foresee any problems in fully releasing the requested records, please contact Beth France at [foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org) or 202.897.2465..

Sincerely,

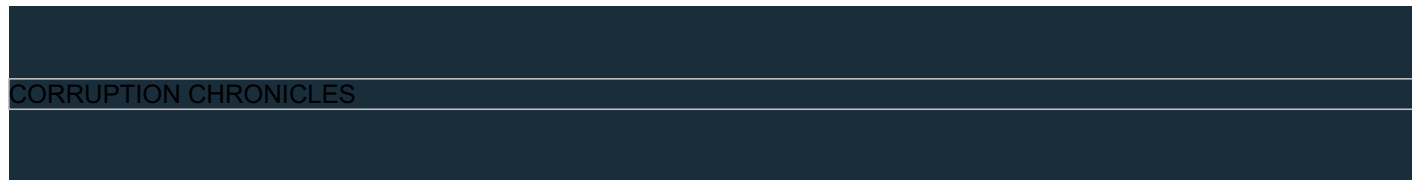
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Austin R. Evers", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Austin R. Evers  
Executive Director  
American Oversight



**From:** JW Corruption Chronicles <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 04, 2019 5:38 PM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Public University Charges Student Who Berated BP Agents Following JW Complaint

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## Public University Charges Student Who Berated BP Agents Following JW Complaint

Days after Judicial Watch filed a [complaint](#) calling on the University of Arizona (UA) to discipline a disorderly student for berating and stalking Border Patrol agents on campus, the school's president delivered some good news; UA's police will charge two students and conduct an investigation to uncover more criminal violations.

Additionally, UA's Office of the Dean of Students will finally review potential violations of the Student Code of Conduct, which Judicial Watch outlined in its March 25, 2019 complaint to UA President Robert C. Robbins.

The episode occurred a few weeks ago when Border Patrol agents were invited to the Tucson campus for a career day event by the school's Criminal Justice Association. The college group has also hosted officers from other federal law enforcement agencies, including Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

During the Border Patrol agents' presentation, a student named Denise Mureno-Melchor, disrupted class and yelled "Murder Patrol" and profanities in Spanish at the agents. In [videos](#) widely circulated online the Mexican-American studies major likens the Border Patrol agents to the notorious hate group Ku Klux Klan and targets the agents by repeatedly chanting "Murder Patrol."

In one of the videos the belligerent student follows the agents for nearly a minute as they walk down a hallway and outside the building to the parking garage. She shouts "Murder Patrol" throughout the segment. In another video, recorded on her cell phone, Mureno-Melchor proclaims that there are "murderers on campus" as the camera pans on the two Border Patrol agents. "We have the KKK and their supporters here at the U of A," she says, referring to fellow students in the classroom. The indignant Latino student also directs profanity in Spanish at the agents who gracefully ignore her.

Robbins, who earns more than any other university president in Arizona history ([\\$988,000 a year](#)), initially protected the student who harassed and stalked the federal agents. He also seemed more concerned with comforting illegal immigrants on campus than confronting the wrongdoing.

In the first [statement](#) addressing the ruckus, UA's president assured that "the university will always protect students' confidential information, including their immigration status." Robbins goes on to write that "all members of our campus community should be able to engage with a variety of viewpoints and positions and express themselves as well. That requires we respect others' right to speech and that they respect ours."

Judicial Watch held Robbins' feet to the fire, calling on him to do his job as president by enforcing the Student Code of Conduct. The complaint listed the specific policy that Mureno-Melchor's behavior appeared to violate, [Policy 5-308](#) of UA's code of conduct, which clearly states the following: "The educational process is ideally conducted in an environment that encourages reasoned discourse, intellectual honesty, openness to constructive change, and respect for the rights of all individuals."

Judicial Watch's complaint further points out that the same policy also defines code of conduct acts demonstrated by Mureno-Melchor. The acts include but are not limited to: endangering, fabrication, stalking, causing reasonable apprehension of harm or engaging in conduct or communications that a reasonable person would interpret as a serious expression of intent to harm, unauthorized presences, engaging in discriminatory activities, including harassment and the commission of any offense prohibited by state or federal law or local ordinance.

Under pressure, Robbins changed course days later. He apologized to the U.S. Border Patrol for the student's atrocious behavior, sources inside the agency told Judicial Watch. Then he got the campus police to do its job.

"The incident between the protesting students and the Criminal Justice club members was a dramatic departure from our expectations of respectful behavior and support for free speech on this campus," Robbins writes in an a follow-up [announcement](#) posted on UA's website. "University police determined today they will be charging two of the students with interference with the peaceful conduct of an educational institution, a misdemeanor." The student club and the federal agents invited by the students should have been able to hold their meeting without disruption, Robbins writes. "Student protest is protected by our support for free speech, but disruption is not."

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: Rosenstein Discussed a Coup

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "After the Bell" on the Fox Business Network to discuss whether there's a bureaucratic coup at the FBI and Department of Justice.

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Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: Rosenstein Needs to be Removed or Investigated

September 25, 2018- Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on the "Intelligence Report with Trish Regan" on the Fox Business Network to discuss what to expect from President Trump's meeting with Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein.

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**From:** JW Corruption Chronicles <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 1:31 PM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Public University Suspends Prof. for Advising Foreign Student to Learn English

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CORRUPTION CHRONICLES

## Public University Suspends Prof. for Advising Foreign Student to Learn English

In a bothersome case of political correctness gone amok, a professor at a highly ranked public university in the United States has been suspended for suggesting a foreign student “learn English.”

The egregious incident occurred this month at the University of Kansas (UK), a taxpayer-funded institution with an enrollment of 28,500 that ranks among the nation’s top public universities. Situated in the northeast Kansas town of Lawrence, the school is the state’s flagship university and a premier research institution.

The “offending” professor, [Gary Minden](#), teaches electrical engineering and computer science in the highly regarded school of engineering. Minden, an acclaimed academic, is a UK alum who received undergraduate and doctorate degrees in electrical engineering at the school.

In the 1990s he served as information technology program manager at the [Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency](#) (DARPA), a Pentagon agency with a \$3 billion budget dedicated to developing technologies for the military. “DARPA goes to great lengths to identify, recruit and support excellent program managers—extraordinary individuals who are at the top of their fields and are hungry for the opportunity to push the limits of their disciplines,” according to the agency’s website. “These leaders, who are at the very heart of DARPA’s history of success, come from academia, industry and government agencies for limited stints, generally three to five years.”

During a recent class, Minden told a foreign student who was using an online translation system on a cell phone that the student should “learn English,” according to a local [newspaper report](#). The unidentified student evidently was not bothered over the suggestion, but others in the class were offended and an “hourlong discussion” ensued in the engineering class which focuses on embedded systems.

During the discussion things apparently got heated and many students in the class became very upset. The professor told the local newspaper that he’s “frustrated” over the incident but refused to comment further for obvious reasons. In the article a university spokeswoman said “a number of students have raised concerns about events that occurred in their engineering class. In response to these concerns, the university has assigned a different instructor to teach the course while the matter is reviewed.”

This is hardly an isolated case of political correctness at taxpayer-funded schools in the United States. Public elementary, middle and high schools as well as colleges have taken an extreme leftist turn on several issues over the years and Judicial Watch has reported or taken legal action in several of the cases.

This includes exposing a [Mexican separatist school](#) that pushes Marxism and Anti-Americanism in Los Angeles, [pervasive corruption](#) in Chicago public schools and an [after school Satan club](#) in Washington State that received speedy tax-exempt approval from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Judicial Watch is currently embroiled in a [legal battle](#) with the Berkeley Unified School District in California to obtain the records of a middle school teacher who is a national organizer for a radical

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000592

leftist group.

The teacher, Yvette Felarca, works at Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School and is a prominent figure in [By Any Means Necessary](#) (BAMN), an organized militant group founded by the Marxist Revolutionary Workers League that uses raucous militant tactics to protest conservative speaking engagements. Felarca has been charged with several crimes, including felony assault, for inciting a riot in Sacramento.

A few years ago, Judicial Watch wrote about professors at a 54,000-student public university in south Florida that demanded the school [protect illegal aliens](#) by creating a “sanctuary campus.” The professors compared immigration enforcement to “fugitive slave laws.”

At the time students at colleges around the nation requested their undocumented classmates be protected, but the Florida professors blazed the trail as the first faculty members of an American taxpayer-funded establishment to officially call for campus-wide sanctuary in the aftermath of Donald Trump’s presidential election.

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton on WMAL: Hillary Clinton ORDERED by Court to Answer Key Questions on Email Server

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Mornings on the Mall” on WMAL Radio to discuss U.S. District Court Judge Emmet G. Sullivan ruled that within 30 days Clinton must answer under oath two additional questions about her controversial email system.

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Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: At Least 11 FBI Payments went to Steele

August 5, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Fox and Friends” on the Fox News Channel to discuss The FBI released 71 pages of redacted documents tied to the bureau’s relationship with Christopher Steele.

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**From:** Christie Fogarty <info@heritage.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 19, 2016 4:39 PM EST  
**To:** Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Quick question

Robert,

I just wanted to connect and see if you'll be able to donate towards The Heritage Foundation's million-dollar goal by the December 31 deadline.

Your gift means Heritage will hit the ground running in 2017 with the proven conservative leadership needed to rebuild America. It's a crucial year and we're "all in" to see conservative principles triumph. But we need your help.

You can make your year-end donation here: [myheritage.org/stand-with-heritage](http://myheritage.org/stand-with-heritage)

Thank you for all you do for Heritage.

Christie Fogarty  
Director of Membership  
The Heritage Foundation

The Heritage Foundation

You are subscribed to Heritage Foundation e-mails as phillips@coj.net. If you'd rather not hear from me again, you can respond back to this email or [click here to update your preferences](#).

-

**From:** JW Newslink <press@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 26, 2019 5:31 PM EDT

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** Rand Paul: Investigate Obama officials who 'concocted Russian conspiracy hoax'

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NEWSLINK

## BREAKING NEWS...

600x300

### Rand Paul: Investigate Obama officials who 'concocted Russian conspiracy hoax'

Source: [Washington Examiner](#)

Sen. Rand Paul called on Justice to investigate the Obama aides who forced the false claims into public. "Time to investigate the Obama officials who concocted and spread the Russian conspiracy hoax!" he tweeted.

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## Background Notes from Judicial Watch

180x150x1

2018-07-06

**Judicial Watch Sues  
the CIA for  
Documents on the  
Dossier Leak to  
Senator Harry Reid**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Judicial Watch filed a FOIA



lawsuit against the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) for records of communications with former Senator Harry Reid (D-NV) and his staff regarding the anti-Trump dossier funded by the Clinton campaign and the Democratic National Committee.

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2019-03-24

**Judicial Watch  
Statement on the  
Mueller Report**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton: Let's be clear, neither Mueller, the Obama FBI, DOJ, CIA, State Department, nor the Deep State ever had a good-faith basis to pursue President Trump on Russia collusion. Russia collusion wasn't just a hoax, it is a criminal abuse, which is why Judicial Watch has fought and will continue to fight for Russiagate documents in federal court.

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2018-01-31

**Judicial Watch Sues  
to Expose FISA  
Warrant Abuses and  
Stonewalling of  
Congress On Russia  
Collusion  
Investigation**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

JuDicial Watch sued the Justice Department for communications between both the DOJ and the FBI with members of the Senate Judiciary Committee and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence regarding Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) warrants against Carter Page and other members of Trump campaign.

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## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: At this Point, Mueller Probe is 'Harassment'

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on "Fox & Friends First" weighed in on the special counsel probe's impact over the last year and what it could mean for Mueller's final report, reportedly expected by February.

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Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: At Least 11 FBI Payments went to Steele

August 5, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "Fox and Friends" on the Fox News Channel to discuss The FBI released 71 pages of redacted documents tied to the bureau's relationship with Christopher Steele.

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**From:** Public Record Request <PRR@coj.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 10:31 AM EDT  
**To:** ITDPRR <ITDPRR@coj.net>  
**CC:** Bethea, Stan <SBethea@coj.net>; Feiser, Craig <CFeiser@coj.net>  
**Subject:** RE: FW: Public Records Request \*\*2019-127884

Please see below:

Date Range: November 9, 2016 to May 6, 2019

Email Account: All COJ Employees

Search Term: [kkobach@gmail.com](mailto:kkobach@gmail.com) or [kris@kriskobach.com](mailto:kris@kriskobach.com) or @ks.gov,

John Christian Adams,

Hans von Spakovsky,

John R Lott Jr,

Ken Block,

Donal Palmer,

Robert Popper,

Catherine Engelbrecht,

Christy McCormick or [cacm@aol.com](mailto:cacm@aol.com),

electionlawcenter.com,

g-a-i.org,

simpaticosoftware.com,

judicialwatch.org,

heritage.org,

heritageaction.com,

publicinterestlegal.org,

theacru.org,

truethetvote.org

Thank you,

**Angie Wilson**

*Public Records Requests Coordinator*

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214 N. Hogan Street Suite 1180

Jacksonville, FL 32202

(904) 630-7674

630CITY.coj.net



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**From:** Lee, Lisa <LisaLee@coj.net> **On Behalf Of** ITDPRR

**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 10:07 AM

**To:** Public Record Request <PRR@coj.net>

**Cc:** Bethea, Stan <SBethea@coj.net>; Feiser, Craig <CFeiser@coj.net>; ITDPRR <ITDPRR@coj.net>

**Subject:** RE: FW: Public Records Request \*\*2019-127884

Please provide the search terms

Thanks,  
Lisa Lee

**From:** Public Record Request

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000600

**Sent:** Monday, May 6, 2019 10:00 AM  
**To:** ITDPRR <[ITDPRR@coj.net](mailto:ITDPRR@coj.net)>  
**Cc:** Bethea, Stan <[SBethea@coj.net](mailto:SBethea@coj.net)>; Feiser, Craig <[CFeiser@coj.net](mailto:CFeiser@coj.net)>  
**Subject:** FW: FW: Public Records Request \*\*2019-127884

Good morning,

Please see the following request:

Date Range: November 9, 2016 to May 6, 2019  
Email Account: All COJ Employees  
Search Term: Please see the attachment

Thank you,

**Angie Wilson**  
*Public Records Requests Coordinator*  
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**From:** Bethea, Stan <[SBethea@coj.net](mailto:SBethea@coj.net)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 8:46 AM  
**To:** Public Record Request <[PRR@coj.net](mailto:PRR@coj.net)>  
**Subject:** FW: FW: Public Records Request

Please fulfil this request.

Thanks,



**Stan Bethea**

Director of Information Services  
Duval County Supervisor of Elections  
1 Imeson Park Blvd, Bldg. 100  
Jacksonville, FL 32218  
Office: 904-630-8022  
[www.DuvalElections.com](http://www.DuvalElections.com)

**UPCOMING ELECTION DATE**

City of Jacksonville General Election  
May 14, 2019  
**From:** Beth France [<mailto:beth.france@americanoversight.org>]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2019 3:25 PM  
**To:** Hogan, Mike  
**Subject:** Public Records Request

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trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Public Records Officer:

Please find attached a request for records under Florida's public records law.

Sincerely,

Beth France

Counsel

American Oversight

[foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org) | 202.897.2465

[www.americanoversight.org](http://www.americanoversight.org) | @weareoversight

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**From:** Public Record Request  
**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 10:24 AM EDT  
**To:** ITDPRR <ITDPRR@coj.net>  
**CC:** Bethea, Stan <SBethea@coj.net>; Feiser, Craig <CFeiser@coj.net>  
**Subject:** RE: FW: Public Records Request \*\*2019-127884

Please see below:

Date Range: November 9, 2016 to May 6, 2019

Email Account: All COJ Employees

Search Term: [kkobach@gmail.com](mailto:kkobach@gmail.com) or [kris@kriskobach.com](mailto:kris@kriskobach.com) or @ks.gov,

John Christian Adams,

Hans von Spakovsky,

John R Lott Jr,

Ken Block,

Donal Palmer,

Robert Popper,

Catherine Engelbrecht,

Christy McCormick or [cacm@aol.com](mailto:cacm@aol.com),

electionlawcenter.com,

g-a-i.org,

simpaticosoftware.com,

judicialwatch.org,

heritage.org,

heritageaction.com, publicinterestlegal.org, theacru.org, truethetvote.org

Thank you,

**Angie Wilson**

*Public Records Requests Coordinator*

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**From:** Lee, Lisa <LisaLee@coj.net> **On Behalf Of** ITDPRR  
**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 10:07 AM  
**To:** Public Record Request <PRR@coj.net>  
**Cc:** Bethea, Stan <SBethea@coj.net>; Feiser, Craig <CFeiser@coj.net>; ITDPRR <ITDPRR@coj.net>  
**Subject:** RE: FW: Public Records Request \*\*2019-127884

Please provide the search terms

Thanks,  
Lisa Lee

---

**From:** Public Record Request  
**Sent:** Monday, May 6, 2019 10:00 AM  
**To:** ITDPRR <[ITDPRR@coj.net](mailto:ITDPRR@coj.net)>  
**Cc:** Bethea, Stan <[SBethea@coj.net](mailto:SBethea@coj.net)>; Feiser, Craig <[CFeiser@coj.net](mailto:CFeiser@coj.net)>

AMERICAN  
OVERSIGHT

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**Subject:** FW: FW: Public Records Request \*\*2019-127884

Good morning,

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Date Range: November 9, 2016 to May 6, 2019

Email Account: All COJ Employees

Search Term: Please see the attachment

Thank you,

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**From:** Bethea, Stan <[SBethea@coj.net](mailto:SBethea@coj.net)>

**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 8:46 AM

**To:** Public Record Request <[PRR@coj.net](mailto:PRR@coj.net)>

**Subject:** FW: FW: Public Records Request

Please fulfil this request.

Thanks,



***Stan Bethea***

Director of Information Services

Duval County Supervisor of Elections

1 Imeson Park Blvd, Bldg. 100

Jacksonville, FL 32218

Office: 904-630-8022

[www.DuvalElections.com](http://www.DuvalElections.com)

**UPCOMING ELECTION DATE**

City of Jacksonville General Election

May 14, 2019

**From:** Beth France [<mailto:beth.france@americanoversight.org>]

**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2019 3:25 PM

**To:** Hogan, Mike

**Subject:** Public Records Request

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Dear Public Records Officer:

Please find attached a request for records under Florida's public records law.

Sincerely,

Beth France

Counsel

American Oversight

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[www.americanoversight.org](http://www.americanoversight.org) | @weareoversight

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**From:** Public Record Request  
**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 10:31 AM EDT  
**To:** ITDPRR <ITDPRR@coj.net>  
**CC:** Bethea, Stan <SBethea@coj.net>; Feiser, Craig <CFeiser@coj.net>  
**Subject:** RE: FW: Public Records Request \*\*2019-127884

Please see below:

Date Range: November 9, 2016 to May 6, 2019

Email Account: All COJ Employees

Search Term: [kkobach@gmail.com](mailto:kkobach@gmail.com) or [kris@kriskobach.com](mailto:kris@kriskobach.com) or @ks.gov,

John Christian Adams,

Hans von Spakovsky,

John R Lott Jr,

Ken Block,

Donal Palmer,

Robert Popper,

Catherine Engelbrecht,

Christy McCormick or [cacm@aol.com](mailto:cacm@aol.com),

electionlawcenter.com,

g-a-i.org,

simpaticosoftware.com,

judicialwatch.org,

heritage.org,

heritageaction.com,

publicinterestlegal.org,

theacru.org,

truethetvote.org

Thank you,

**Angie Wilson**

*Public Records Requests Coordinator*

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**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 10:07 AM  
**To:** Public Record Request <PRR@coj.net>  
**Cc:** Bethea, Stan <SBethea@coj.net>; Feiser, Craig <CFeiser@coj.net>; ITDPRR <ITDPRR@coj.net>  
**Subject:** RE: FW: Public Records Request \*\*2019-127884

Please provide the search terms

Thanks,  
Lisa Lee

**From:** Public Record Request

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000606

**Sent:** Monday, May 6, 2019 10:00 AM  
**To:** ITDPRR <[ITDPRR@coj.net](mailto:ITDPRR@coj.net)>  
**Cc:** Bethea, Stan <[SBethea@coj.net](mailto:SBethea@coj.net)>; Feiser, Craig <[CFeiser@coj.net](mailto:CFeiser@coj.net)>  
**Subject:** FW: FW: Public Records Request \*\*2019-127884

Good morning,

Please see the following request:

Date Range: November 9, 2016 to May 6, 2019  
Email Account: All COJ Employees  
Search Term: Please see the attachment

Thank you,

**Angie Wilson**  
*Public Records Requests Coordinator*  
City of Jacksonville | Customer Service Center  
214 N. Hogan Street Suite 1180  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
(904) 630-7674  
[630CITY@coj.net](mailto:630CITY@coj.net)



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**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 8:46 AM  
**To:** Public Record Request <[PRR@coj.net](mailto:PRR@coj.net)>  
**Subject:** FW: FW: Public Records Request

Please fulfil this request.

Thanks,



**Stan Bethea**

Director of Information Services  
Duval County Supervisor of Elections  
1 Imeson Park Blvd, Bldg. 100  
Jacksonville, FL 32218  
Office: 904-630-8022  
[www.DuvalElections.com](http://www.DuvalElections.com)

**UPCOMING ELECTION DATE**

City of Jacksonville General Election  
May 14, 2019  
**From:** Beth France [<mailto:beth.france@americanoversight.org>]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2019 3:25 PM  
**To:** Hogan, Mike  
**Subject:** Public Records Request

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Dear Public Records Officer:

Please find attached a request for records under Florida's public records law.

Sincerely,

Beth France

Counsel

American Oversight

[foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org) | 202.897.2465

[www.americanoversight.org](http://www.americanoversight.org) | @weareoversight

FL-DUVAL-19-0522

**From:** Jan Tyler <jantyl2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 04, 2018 3:40 PM EDT  
**To:** Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net>  
**CC:** info@theacru.org <info@theacru.org>; Hogan, Mike <MHogan@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Re: Supervisor feedback

Received, thank you.

On Fri, May 4, 2018, 3:23 PM Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net> wrote:

Dear Supervisor Hogan:

The American Civil Rights Union is interested in determining the use of certain voter list maintenance procedures. I hope that you will assist us by answering the following questions. (Please just reply to [info@theacru.org](mailto:info@theacru.org) and add your answers.)

Does your office receive juror change of address updates from your Clerk of Circuit Court? ☒ YES ☐ NO

If yes, how often? \_\_\_\_monthly\_\_\_\_\_

Does your office receive information on the ineligibility of jurors (i.e. felon, non-citizen) from your Clerk of Circuit Court?  
☒ YES ☐ NO

If yes, how often? \_monthly\_\_\_\_\_

In what format do you receive this information (i.e. spreadsheet, copy of questionnaires?)  
\_\_spreadsheet\_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to provide additional detail about the sharing of data between the Clerks of Circuit Court, Division of Elections or DMV and your office, please tell us how in your reply.

Thank you very much for providing this information. Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jan Tyler

Florida Director

[info@theacru.org](mailto:info@theacru.org)

(303) 929-2066

***Robert Phillips***

***Chief Elections Officer***

Duval County Supervisor of Elections

[www.DuvalElections.com](http://www.DuvalElections.com)

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From: RealClearPolitics <no-reply@realclearpolitics.com>  
Sent: Monday, November 19, 2018 12:02 PM EST  
To: Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net>  
Subject: RealClearPolitics Today for 11/19/2018

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## Today

### RCP Front Page:

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#### **The Supreme Test of Nancy Pelosi's Wizardry**

E.J. Dionne, Washington Post

#### **Democrats Are in Disarray. Does That Spell Trouble for 2020?**

Liz Peek, FOX News

#### **Betomania Hits 2020: 'He's Barack Obama, But White'**

David Siders, Politico

#### **The Way Trump Wins Again**

Daniel McCarthy, Spectator USA

#### **Don't Run, Senator Warren, Don't Run**

Thomas Gagen, Boston Globe

#### **Jim Acosta and the Hubris of Celebrity Journalism**

Frank Miele, RealClearPolitics

#### **Battle Against WH's Acosta Ban Should Mark Turning Point**

Emily Bell, The Guardian

#### **Kill the Lights, Shut Off the Cameras, Reform WH Press Corps**

James Robbins, USAT

#### **America Is Becoming a Two-Tiered Democracy**

Ari Berman, Mother Jones

#### **Palm Beach Went For Coloring Books Over New Voting Machines**

Steve Miller, RCI

#### **Dem Losers: Undignified and Dangerous**

David Catron, The American Spectator

#### **Finally, Abizaid Will Be an Adult in the Room With the Saudis**

Peter Bergen, CNN

#### **The Attacks on Whitaker Are Baseless**

Hans von Spakovsky, FOX News

#### **The Dueling Deities at Harvard**

Caitlin Flanagan, The Atlantic

#### **Kamala Harris Emulates Joe McCarthy**

John Solomon, The Hill

#### **Wealth Cannot Save You From Climate Change**

Ryan Cooper, The Week

#### **The Progressive Synopticon**

Victor Davis Hanson, American Greatness

## Stacey Abrams's Contemptible Non-Concession

The Weekly Standard

## Internet Bill of Rights Deserves Tech Industry Support

San Jose Mercury-News

## Betsy DeVos (Mostly) Gets Title IX Rules Right

New York Daily News

## Bravo to Companies Working to Employ Veterans

Las Vegas Review-Journal

### Recent Videos

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— **Lindsey Graham: "I Don't See Any Indication" That DOJ Is Interfering With Mueller Probe**

— **Nunes: We Finished Our Investigation; "Four Buckets Of Information We Want Declassified"**

— **'Face The Nation' Roundtable: Newly Elected Members Of Congress On Trump, Immigration, Pelosi**

— **Rep. Elijah Cummings: Will Do "Anything And Everything" To Make Mueller Results Public**

— **Chuck Todd: In 2020, Ohio and Colorado Are No Longer Swing States**

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**From:** RealClearPolitics <no-reply=realclearpolitics.com@mail51.atl91.mcsv.net> on behalf of RealClearPolitics <no-reply@realclearpolitics.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2016 9:08 AM EST  
**To:** Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net>  
**Subject:** RealClearPolitics Today for 12/05/2016

12/05/2016

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## Today

### **Democrats Dancing With Insanity**

Salena Zito, Washington Examiner

### **America Doesn't Need a Dealmaker in Chief**

Daniel Gross, Slate

### **A Successful President-Elect Before He Is Even Sworn In**

Newt Gingrich, FOX News

### **Trump's Agents of Idiocracy**

Charles Blow, New York Times

### **Dems Have Become Old Fogey--Ideologically & Physically**

Roger L. Simon, PJM

### **Diagnosing Your Doc's New Euphoria**

Marc Siegel, Wall Street Journal

### **Republicans Plot Obamacare Hostage Crisis**

Jonathan Cohn, Huffington Post

### **FBI Needs to Investigate Violent Democratic Tantrums**

Austin Bay, New York Observer

### **The Election's Over But Trump's Still Campaigning**

Caitlin Huey-Burns, RealClearPolitics

### **Why Trump's Taiwan Call Changes Everything**

Gordon Chang, The National Interest

### **Did Trump Just Cause a Diplomatic Crisis Over Taiwan?**

Doyle McManus, LA Times

## **Do Illegal Votes Decide Elections?**

Von Spakovsky & Fund, Wall Street Journal

## **The Post-Truth World of the Trump Administration**

Margaret Sullivan, Washington Post

## **The Truth About Our Failed, Dishonest Media**

Ying Ma, The National Interest

## **Is Democracy Doomed? We've Been Here Before.**

Bill Scher, RealClearPolitics

## **The Video France Doesn't Want You to See**

George Will, New York Post

## **Finding America's Mother Teresa**

Nicholas Kristof, New York Times

## **Trump's Taiwan Play**

Wall Street Journal

## **How to Help Working People**

New York Times

## **How Trump Can Spark an Economic Boom**

Washington Examiner

## **The Least Painful Path to Brexit**

Bloomberg

## **Recent Videos**

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— **CNN's Stelter: Trump's Lies Has People Questioning Basic Premises Of Journalism**

— **'Face The Nation' Roundtable: Trump Cabinet Comes Together, Democratic Party Crisis**

## **Full Replay: Jake Tapper Moderates Kellyanne Conway vs. Robby Mook Election Recap**

— **Pelosi on Future Of Democratic Party: "I Don't Think People Want A New Direction"**

— **'Meet The Press' Roundtable: Trump's Words And Foreign Policy, Dems In Distress, 2016 Blame Game**

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**From:** JW Corruption Chronicles <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2019 10:33 AM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Republican Mayor Allocates \$70,000 to Hire City “Immigrant Affairs Manager”

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CORRUPTION CHRONICLES

## Republican Mayor Allocates \$70,000 to Hire City “Immigrant Affairs Manager”

The Republican mayor of the nation’s eighth largest city is dedicating [\\$70,000](#) to hire an “immigrant affairs manager” that will help facilitate a successful integration of refugees and immigrants. The goal is to implement the orders of a community-written blueprint that aims to welcome immigrants as they transition into the city. Known as the [“Strategic Plan on Immigrant and Refugee Integration,”](#) the document was created with the input of open borders groups, residents and a “cross-sector steering committee” that direct city officials to skirt federal law.

It is unclear how much taxpayer money California’s second largest city, San Diego, will end up spending to accommodate immigrants. Mayor Kevin Faulconer [announced](#) the new \$70,000 position this week at a press conference on the grounds of a local [museum](#) dedicated to celebrating America’s cultural diversity. “The preservation and presentation of the immigrant experience in the United States is our central commitment,” according to the museum’s website.

At the press conference Faulconer, who previously served on the city council, said this: “Immigrants from around the globe help define our city. San Diego has long been a destination for people in search of opportunity, refugees looking to rebuild their lives, and new citizens who are proud to call America home. San Diego’s economy, workforce and future growth are connected to our ability to welcome new Americans into our community.”

Let’s take a look at the proposals in the integration blueprint that the city’s new immigrant affairs manager is supposed to help implement. They include creating economic opportunity for immigrants, tweaking education to accommodate them, granting them inclusive access to taxpayer-funded services, improving civic engagement, and safe communities. The city is supposed to facilitate the career advancement of immigrants through job placement, rights protection, and inclusive recruitment. This is to include promoting immigrant entrepreneurship, financial literacy among newcomers, and the reduction of barriers toward home ownership. Not sure how that’s going to happen since San Diego is one of the nation’s [most expensive cities](#) to live in with among the highest home prices.

The plan also calls on the city to enhance a multicultural curriculum in kindergarten through high school for “newcomer students” and remove barriers to existing education programs. That means developing a curriculum that includes ethnic studies, immigration history, cross-cultural competency, and anti-bias and tolerance education. The integration blueprint also demands free tuition at public colleges for immigrants. Inclusive access means the city must expand language access to ensure public services are “user-friendly and culturally-responsive.”

To promote civic engagement among immigrants, San Diego officials must develop immigrant and refugee leaders and increase naturalizations and civic participation among new and aspiring Americans. To create a safe community for immigrants, law enforcement must be properly trained to serve “multilingual and multicultural communities,” the document states.

Under the plan, consular identifications, common among illegal immigrants from Mexico, will be accepted across city agencies. Other forms of “foreign citizenship documents” will also be accepted, according to the recommendations. Local

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police and all city officials will also shield illegal immigrants from federal authorities. This appears as advocating for policies that help protect and advance the rights of immigrants and refugees at the county, state and federal level. “Oppose policies that target or profile immigrants and endanger their status,” the strategic plan states, referring to deportation.

The list of demands goes on and on and it appears elected officials in San Diego plan to meet them. “It’s important our communities here in San Diego know they don’t stand alone,” said City Council President Georgette Gomez. “Our policies and actions must reflect a city that is welcoming. I look forward to working with the Mayor and my colleagues to help implement the plan.”

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: Rosenstein Needs to be Removed or Investigated

September 25, 2018- Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on the “Intelligence Report with Trish Regan” on the Fox Business Network to discuss what to expect from President Trump’s meeting with Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein.

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Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: At Least 11 FBI Payments went to Steele

August 5, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Fox and Friends” on the Fox News Channel to discuss The FBI released 71 pages of redacted documents tied to the bureau’s relationship with Christopher Steele.

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**From:** Susan Carleson <Susan.Carleson@theacru.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 05, 2019 9:52 AM EST

**To:** Kravitz, Richard <RKravitz@coj.net>

**Subject:** Research dispels the myth that Voter ID suppresses voter turnout; not to be discouraged, Democrats continue to press dumping the Electoral College and federalizing U.S. elections

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The National Bureau of Economic Research dispels the myth that [Voter ID suppresses voter turnout](#). But, not to be discouraged, Democrats continue to press [dumping the Electoral College](#) and [federalizing U.S. elections](#). Questions abound. California's DMV is under the gun over its [bungled automatic voter registration](#), but will it undergo an audit? Will [Colorado's National Popular Vote effort](#) face a statewide ballot challenge? And was there really [vote buying in Illinois](#)? A New Jersey [county worker was told to button up](#) about uncounted ballots, and the [NYC Board of Elections apparently can't keep track](#) of 75,000 who voted. Meanwhile, [ballot harvesters are offering true confessions in Texas](#); while a federal judge there tells counties to stop cancelling [noncitizen voter registrations](#). Read all about it in [this week's EIB](#).

## LEAD

### Democrats Take Steps to Undermine the Electoral College After Hillary Clinton's 2016 Loss to Trump

Democrats across the country are pushing legislation to grant the presidency to the popular vote winner in a move that would undermine the Electoral College system that has been part of America's presidential elections since its founding. The movement stems from 2016's presidential election where liberal Americans saw their candidate obtain the most votes but lose to Donald Trump. Election results indicate Hillary Clinton won several million more votes overall than President Trump because she won big in highly populous states like California and New York. The US Constitution mandates the Electoral College system, giving every state a chance to be heard in presidential elections. But Democratic officials in at least 11 states have taken steps to pass legislation to force their electors in the Electoral College to vote for the winner of the popular vote, even if the voters in their own states voted for the other candidate.

## FEDERAL

### Washington Examiner: Democrats Push to Regulate Voting Rules in 11 States Under New Voting Rights Act

House Democrats on Tuesday introduced legislation to require 11 states and dozens of counties with recent histories of voter discrimination to receive approval from the federal government before making any changes to their election laws. The **Voting Rights Advancement Act** is a move to repair the Voting Rights Act of 1965, part of which was struck down by the Supreme Court in 2013. That decision outraged Democrats who said the court essentially gutted a key provision of the law that was meant to correct decades of discriminatory treatment of black voters. The 11 states that are expected to be affected under the new VRAA are Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia.

### Washington Times: Eric Holder Calls for an End to the Electoral College: 'It's Undemocratic'

Former Attorney General Eric Holder, who is considering a 2020 presidential bid, called Tuesday to abolish the Electoral College, saying it's a "vestige of the past." The potential Democratic presidential candidate issued the tweet while linking to an article from the Washington Post that notes nearly a dozen traditionally blue states have passed legislation to circumvent the Electoral College. The push comes after President Trump won in 2016 by 77 Electoral College votes but lost the popular vote to Hillary Clinton by more than 2.8 million.

### Daily Signal: New Study Confirms Voter ID Laws Don't Hurt Election Turnout

Less than one week after Georgia Democrat Stacey Abrams made inflammatory claims in her State of the Union response about an epidemic of "voter suppression" jeopardizing the character of our nation, the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) released a study that demonstrates once again that voter

ID laws have no measurable impact on voting behavior. In other words, voter ID laws don't "suppress" anyone's vote. This latest study echoes the conclusion of others, including a landmark report by The Heritage Foundation in 2007 finding that voter ID laws don't reduce voter turnout, including among African-Americans and Hispanics. These voters were just as likely to vote in states requiring photo identification as in those that don't. Researchers for the NBER found that between 2008 and 2016, voter ID laws had "no negative effect on registration or turnout, overall or for any specific group defined by race, gender, age or party affiliation."

### **Courier Journal: Don't Be Deceived. 'For the People Act' Would Federalize Elections**

The "For the People Act" would take significant oversight authority away from the states and give it to federal agencies. It would require every state to implement online voting registration, without protections to verify eligibility. It would allow for same-day registration and voting during the mandated early voting period and on Election Day. It would eliminate all state voter ID requirements at polling locations, requiring only a signature instead. According to the Lawyers Democracy Fund, a nonprofit focused on election law, there are more than 30 new federal mandates in the more than 500-page bill that would be placed on states.

## **STATES**

### **California: DMV Audit Pending with Lawmakers Suspicious of Voter Fraud**

The serious problems at the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) are no longer fodder for jokes. In January we learned that DMV and county voter registrars told the California Secretary of State last year the motor Voter program was not ready. Motor Voter automatically registers voters when they renew or obtain a driver's license. The DMV and registrars asked Secretary of State Alex Padilla to hold off on the roll-out. But Padilla and the state went ahead anyway. They had valid concerns, said Assemblyman Jim Patterson (R-Fresno). "The people of California are suffering with the DMV and its 1980's technology," Patterson said. Patterson announced Wednesday that a bipartisan request to audit the Department of Motor Vehicles' Motor Voter Program will be heard by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee at a special hearing in May, co-authored by Assemblyman Patterson and Assemblyman Rudy Salas (D-Bakersfield), a member of JLAC, and JLAC Chair, respectively. The committee will vote in June on whether or not to authorize the California State Auditor to take up the issue.

### **Colorado: Critics of Colorado's National Popular Vote Bill Must Wait to Act**

Colorado's effort to switch to a national popular vote for electing presidents has passed both chambers of the state legislature, and opponents are eager to ask statewide voters to overturn it. Opponents of the change to a popular vote have vowed to force the issue onto statewide ballots. They say the change will weaken Colorado's political power by handing the state's electoral votes to whomever is chosen by more populated states such as New York and California. To overturn the law, they'll need to collect 124,632 signatures within 90 days after adjournment of the 2019 legislative session. That date is Aug. 1. Opponents can't start collecting signatures, however, until either Governor Polis signs the bill into law or it becomes law after 10 days on his desk without a signature. Only then can the Secretary of State's Office approve the format for petitions seeking signatures. And only after that has occurred can signatures be collected.

### **Florida: After That Embarrassing Recount, Can Florida Regain the Public's Trust in Elections?**

The 2018 election seemed to prove that Florida, home to the infamous 2000 presidential recount, still hasn't figured out how to properly run an election. But the truth is, the state of Florida doesn't run the voting process. It merely oversees it. If the midterm election confirmed anything, it's that Florida's secretary of state still struggles to create uniformity among dozens of operations run independently by 67 elected and autonomous election supervisors, and to manage the massive amount of data that streams in on election night. As hours turned to days without declared winners in three statewide races, the state's inability to explain how many votes had been rejected or even how many votes remained to be counted contributed to allegations of voter fraud, lawsuits and distrust in the basic foundation of democracy. So, even though who won any particular race is no longer in dispute, the efficacy of the state's election process remains in doubt. And in order to restore faith in the system, political scientists and election experts believe Florida must improve the transparency and efficiency of the process by getting a better grip at ground level or risk a higher-profile embarrassment should the 2020 presidential election yield a similarly close vote.

### **Illinois: Authorities Investigate Vote-Buying Allegations in Crowded 25th Ward Race**

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Independent poll watchers have notified authorities of allegations of vote buying by a candidate who made the runoff election to replace Alderman Danny Solis in the 25th Ward. The non-profit non-partisan Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights had poll watchers stationed at a polling place at 1354 S. Morgan St. on Tuesday and received reports from at least five voters who claimed they were offered gift cards in exchange for voting for Byron Sigcho-Lopez.

### **New Jersey: 'Keep Your Mouths Shut' about Uncounted Ballots, County Workers Say They Were Told**

A Salem County employee claims she found months-old uncounted provisional ballots and when she alerted her boss, she was told to keep quiet. When she didn't, she claims she was fired. The allegations are included in a lawsuit filed in Superior Court in October 2018 by Debra Bradford of Carneys Point. Bradford, who worked as the Republican deputy registrar at the Salem County Board of Elections, says five uncounted and unaccounted for provisional ballots were found that were from the 2016 primary election when preparing for the general election that same year.

### **New York: Problems Still Plague NYC Board of Elections as More Than 75,000 Voters Not Recorded after Casting Ballots**

Forget the long lines and the broken ballot scanners, the City Board of Elections can barely keep track of who voted. The problem-plagued agency hasn't updated its voter records following last year's September primaries — making it appear as if more than 75,000 Brooklyn voters who made it to the polls didn't cast ballots, according to an inquiry conducted by State Senator Zellnor Myrie.

### **North Carolina: Republicans Appeal Order Voiding Amendments on Voter ID**

Republican legislative leaders have appealed a court ruling striking down new North Carolina constitutional amendments mandating photo identification to vote and lower caps on income tax rates. The notice filed on Monday with the Court of Appeals challenges Friday's decision by a Wake County judge voiding legislative directives to put the amendments on the ballot and voter approval of them in November. Judge Bryan Collins ruled the 2017-18 General Assembly that approved the amendment referendums last year were illegally established because federal courts had declared legislative district boundaries illegal gerrymanders. The ruling doesn't specifically cancel a December law implementing the voter ID mandates, but the decision calls into question whether it will stand. GOP lawmakers say the ruling threatens the validity of laws approved over an 18-month period.

### **North Carolina: Mark Harris Will Not Run in Election Again Following Fraud Allegations**

Republican Mark Harris announced Tuesday that he would not run again to represent North Carolina's 9th Congressional District following allegations of election fraud. The pastor said that a "necessary surgery" in March would prevent him from running again. The North Carolina State Board of Elections have not set a new date for the special election, which is the last of 2018. Mr. Harris' opponent, Dan McCready, a Democrat, has declared his candidacy for the new election. Mr. Harris' win was tainted with accusations of absentee ballot tampering by campaign staffer Leslie McCrae Dowless, which led to the new election being ordered.

### **Texas: True Confessions of Texas Ballot Harvesters**

Modesta Vela was arrested in Texas for illegal ballot harvesting. Harvesting has become a hot topic nationally with the spread of absentee balloting. "I've worked for over 30 years helping people in Roma vote," said Vela, who was arrested twice in October on charges of vote harvesting, or illegally assisting voters with their mail-in ballots, the same charges she faced in 2010. Omar Escobar Jr., the Starr County district attorney, a Democrat, says that far from being an exemplar of grassroots democracy, Vela is the "godmother of voter fraud." He is among a group of current and former district attorneys in South Texas who say it is long past time to reform what he sees as a threat to democracy in the Lone Star State — absentee or mail-in ballots and how they are handled. "The time has come to consider an alternative to mail-in voting," said Escobar. Something that can't be hijacked." This puts Escobar and his colleagues at odds with national trends aimed at increasing ballot access. Twenty-two states allow all-mail voting in special districts, municipal elections, or when candidates are unopposed. Mail-in voting nationally tripled from 2.4 million voters in 2008 to 8.2 million in 2016. In most states it goes off with hardly a hitch, including in three states where people vote exclusively by mail — Oregon, Washington and Colorado. But last November's election changed people's thinking about absentee balloting, after what happened in

California and North Carolina.

## **Texas: Federal Judge Directs More Counties to Halt Voter Citizenship Review Efforts as Lawsuits Proceed**

As part of an ongoing flurry of litigation in federal court here over the state's bungled citizenship review of its voter rolls, a federal judge on Monday told a handful of Texas counties they may not — for now — purge registered voters or send them letters demanding proof of citizenship. Eight counties named in one of three pending lawsuits over the review effort agreed last week that they will not cancel any voter registrations as lawyers from a host of civil rights groups tangle with the state in court. U.S. District Judge Fred Biery said from the bench Monday that the other counties named in a separate lawsuit should consider themselves restrained in the same way as litigation proceeds. That doesn't apply to the other 200-plus counties in the state, but "we expect all the counties are watching these proceedings," said Nina Perales, vice president of litigation for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, one of the groups suing Texas and several counties.

## **REDISTRICTING**

### **North Carolina: Court-Forced Gerrymandering Lawsuit Reveals Dem. Hypocrisy**

In North Carolina, former Attorney General Eric Holder's National Democratic Redistricting Committee and other activist groups continue to cynically cast out any principles of equity or common-sense fairness in their effort to transform red states. On Friday, state Sens. Phil Berger and Ralph Hise, two of the top-ranking leaders in the GOP-led N.C. legislature, pointed to yet another example of Left's hypocrisy in ongoing "sue 'til blue" efforts to achieve court-forced redistricting favorable to Democrats at both the state and federal levels. Despite the fact that the left-leaning courts already imposed such a requirement, tossing out the legislature's district maps in favor of pro-Democrat ones in the 2018 election, the outcome did not yield its intended results. Although Republicans lost their super-majorities in the state House and Senate, they maintained majority control of both, wielding enough influence to keep in check Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper. Now, the Democratic activists argue, the maps again need to be redrawn to better tweak the distributions of liberal and minority voters. They have pressed lawsuits calling for all 170 seats in the state General Assembly to be re-examined, as well as its 13 U.S. congressional districts.

**The American Civil Rights Union**

3213 Duke St., #625

Alexandria, VA 22314

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**Sent:** Sunday, October 29, 2017 4:51 PM EDT  
**To:** Hinson, Linda <LHinson@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Robert Phillips liked alligatorSports's Tweet: Column: I get why Jim McElwain should go. But remember he's human, too. From @ebaueri:

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Robert Phillips liked

**alligatorSports**

@alligatorSports

Column: I get why Jim McElwain should go. But remember he's human, too.

From @ebaueri:

**Column: I get why Jim McElwain should go. But remember he's human, too**

JACKSONVILLE — I felt something on Saturday I've never felt before when listening to Jim McEl... [more](#)

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**Randy Wyse**

@rwyse

RT @JFRDJAX: We our fortunate the city supplies us with top notch gear...the citizens are fortunate our... [instagram.com/p/BayzA6ZnmW0/](#)

**#InAllKindsOfWeather**

@AllKindsWeather

My short list:

Chip Kelly  
Scott Frost  
Matt Campbell  
Dan Mullen  
Justin Fuente

Get any of those guys and I'll be thrilled.

8046180

**Audrey Moran**

@audreymoranjax

RT @JAXChamber: .@BaptistHealthJx investment reaching \$500 million [#ilovejax](#)

**Baptist Health investment reaching \$500 million | Jax Daily Record | Financial News & Daily Record...**

System's 2-year tally includes Downtown, Beaches and Nassau.

jaxdailyrecord.com

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The U.S. made a commitment to democracy in Cambodia—and must hold the Cambodian government accountable.

**The U.S. Should Take Swift Action to Help Preserve Democracy in Cambodia | The Heritage Foundation**

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[heritage.org](https://heritage.org)

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 **Michael Munz**  
@gotv63

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Twitter, Inc. 1355 Market Street, Suite 900 San Francisco, CA 94103

From: Twitter <info@twitter.com>  
Sent: Sunday, December 03, 2017 4:18 PM EST  
To: Hinson, Linda <LHinson@coj.net>  
Subject: Robert Phillips liked Mark Pennington's Tweet: Breaking: FSU grad thinks that 40-17 is 31

TheBlaze, GatorBait.net, Heritage Foundation, GatorNation , Frank Frangie also Tweeted.

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Greg Gutfeld completely torches Patton Oswalt in very heated Twitter brawl: [â\200\230Comedy sheriff!â\200\231](#)

\230Comedy sheriff!â\200\231

Fox News host Greg Gutfeld â\200;  
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**From:** JW Inside Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 9:48 AM EDT

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** Sen. Ted Cruz: Congress' New Loopholes RE-OPENED the Door to Illegal Aliens (VIDEO)

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**Judicial Watch Inside Report–  
Sen. Ted Cruz: Congress' New  
Loopholes RE-OPENED the  
Door to Illegal Aliens**

□

On this episode of “JW Inside Report,”  
we join Senator Ted Cruz to discuss  
the ongoing immigration crisis on the  
southern border.



[PR01](#)

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extent allowed by law.  
[judicialwatch.org](http://judicialwatch.org)

**From:** JW NewsWatch <press@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Thursday, January 31, 2019 12:19 PM EST

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** Senate Ethics Committee Gives Sen. Cory Booker a Pass for Purposely Violating Rules to Torpedo Kavanaugh Nomination

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NEWSWATCH

## KEY RELEASE

600x300

### Senate Ethics Committee Gives Sen. Cory Booker a Pass for Purposely Violating Rules to Torpedo Kavanaugh Nomination

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Judicial Watch announced that the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Ethics has refused to take action against Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ), who admitted to willfully violating Senate rules by releasing confidential records regarding then-Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh's time as a White House counsel.

☐ READ  
MORE

## MAJOR MEDIA REPORTS

180x150x1

2019-01-23

**Senate cravenly fails  
to rebuke Cory**

**Booker for**

**'Spartacus' moment**

Source: [Washington  
Examiner](#)

Even when a senator openly admits and even brags about breaking Senate rules, the Ethics Committee will issue him no penalty. Indeed, so dismissive of ethics concerns is the committee that it won't even bother a single sentence explaining its lack of action.

☐ [READ MORE](#)

180x150x2

2019-01-23

**Judicial Watch:  
Senate Ethics  
Committee Gives  
Sen. Cory Booker a  
Pass for Purposely  
Violating Rules to  
Try to Torpedo  
Kavanaugh  
Nomination**

Source: [Insider NJ](#)

Judicial Watch announced today that the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Ethics has refused to take action against Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ), who admitted to willfully violating Senate rules.

☐ [READ MORE](#)

180x150x3

2019-01-23

**Senate ethics panel  
won't penalize  
Booker over  
confidential  
Kavanaugh  
documents**

Source: [The Hill](#)

The Senate Ethics Committee has announced

it will not act on a complaint against Sen. Cory Booker (D-N.J.), a potential 2020 White House candidate, for releasing “committee confidential” documents during the Senate confirmation hearing for then-Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh.

 [READ MORE](#)

## QUOTABLE

100x100

“It is an absolute disgrace that the Senate Ethics Committee is giving Senator Booker a pass for willfully violating Senate rules by leaking confidential information to smear Justice Kavanaugh.”

- **Tom Fitton**  
**Judicial Watch President**

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

Tom Fitton on WMAL: Hillary Clinton ORDERED by Court to Answer Key Questions on Email Server

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Mornings on the Mall” on WMAL Radio to discuss U.S. District Court Judge Emmet G. Sullivan ruled that within 30 days Clinton must answer under oath two additional questions about her controversial email system.

 [READ MORE](#)



Article-Image

## Tom Fitton: A DOJ Spying Investigation would be a Win for the Rule of Law

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Fox and Friends” on the Fox News Channel to discuss President Trump’s request for a DOJ probe into whether the FBI infiltrated his campaign.

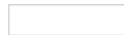
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Article-Image

## Join us on JW Podcast!

Join us on JW podcast to listen to Tom Fitton on Judicial Watch's Weekly Update!

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**From:** JW Newslink <press@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 30, 2019 1:56 PM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Send in the Clown: Sally Yates Spins on Sunday Tabloid Show

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email originated from a non-COJ email address. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

NEWSLINK

## BREAKING NEWS...

600x300

### Send in the Clown: Sally Yates Spins on Sunday Tabloid Show

Source: [American Greatness](#)

The Mueller report spin machine continues to operate with the various characters implicated in the array of Trump “investigations” hitting the media circuit. Sally Yates, Logan Act expert, signer of a dubious FISA warrant and contentious objector of a presidential order, appeared on a NBC tabloid show to speak some truth to power.

☐ READ  
MORE

## Background Notes from Judicial Watch

180x150x1

2017-01-31

**Judicial Watch**  
**Issues Statement on**  
**the Firing of Acting**  
**Attorney General**  
**Sally Yates**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

JW President Tom Fitton:  
President Trump is to be  
commended for upholding  
the rule of law in firing  
Yates for her politicization  
of the Justice Department.  
Judicial Watch has long  
sounded a warning about  
allowing unvetted refugees  
into the United States.

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MORE](#)

180x150x2

2017-05-08

**Judicial Watch Sues  
for Sally Yates'  
Emails While She  
Served as Trump  
Acting Attorney  
General**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Judicial Watch filed a  
Freedom of Information  
Act (FOIA) lawsuit against  
the Department of Justice  
for emails of former Acting  
Attorney General Sally  
Yates from her  
government account.  
Yates ordered the Justice  
Department not to defend  
President Trump's January  
27 executive order seeking  
a travel ban from seven  
Middle Eastern countries.

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180x150x3

2017-12-05

**Justice Department  
Records Show  
Strong Support by  
Mueller Deputy  
Andrew Weissmann  
for Yates' Refusal to  
Enforce President  
Trump Travel Ban**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Justice Department documents show strong support by top DOJ officials for former Acting Attorney General Sally Yates' refusal to enforce President Trump's Middle East travel ban executive order. In one email, Andrew Weissmann, one of Robert Mueller's top prosecutors and formerly the Obama-era Chief of the Justice Department's Criminal Fraud Section, applauds Yates writing: "I am so proud. And in awe. Thank you so much. All my deepest respects."

☐ [READ MORE](#)

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### HUGE: President Trump Retweets Judicial Watch Six Times!

President Donald Trump retweeted Judicial Watch six times on April 17th! The six tweets were about Judicial Watch's latest press release discussing new Clinton emails uncovered, A segment of Hannity discussing Judicial Watch's newest discoveries, a Judicial Watch press release discussing new FBI documents uncovered showing 'cover-up' discussions in the Clinton investigation, a segment of Tom Fitton on Fox News discussing AG Bill Barr, a Judicial Watch press release about FBI and DOJ communications discovered, and a segment from Judicial Watch's weekly update.

☐ [READ MORE](#)

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: At Least 11 FBI Payments went to Steele

August 5, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "Fox and Friends" on the Fox News Channel to discuss The FBI  
FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000640

released 71 pages of redacted documents tied to the bureau's relationship with Christopher Steele.

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Article-Image

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**From:** Melissa Rogers <mrogers@slicompliance.com>

**Sent:** Monday, November 19, 2018 12:36 PM EST

**To:** Hogan, Mike <MHogan@coj.net>

**Subject:** SLI Compliance Voting Quarterly Newsletter

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email originated from a non-COJ email address. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

## SLI Compliance Attends Classified Briefing for Private Sector Election Companies

### WHEAT RIDGE, CO (October 9, 2018)

– On October 2<sup>nd</sup> senior officials from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) met with members of the Sector Coordinating Council (SCC) for the Election Infrastructure Subsector to conduct a classified briefing regarding cyber security for the elections community. As members of the SCC, SLI Compliance®'s Dir. Of Operations, Traci Mapps, along with IT Manager, Jesse Petersen, were in attendance.

The SCC was created in early 2018 as a cooperative effort between the DHS, The National Association of State Election Directors (NASED), the Election Assistance Commission (EAC), The National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS), and state and local election officials. The mission of the Council is to...

[Continue Reading](#)

## Did Your Election Run as Smoothly as You Would Have Liked?

Now that the election is over, can you say with confidence that yours went as smoothly as possible? It's hard not to hear post-election reports about lost and miscounted ballots, touch-screen complaints, and general election mismanagement. With changing regulations, guidelines and growing security concerns, it's hard to keep up on process. However, conducting fair and open elections where every eligible voter can participate, every vote is cast by an eligible voter, and every vote cast is properly counted, is paramount for every election. It's crucial for cities and counties to have a comprehensive Election Procedures Manual for implementing not only current election laws, but future changes to election laws

when they arise...

[Continue Reading](#)

---

## How Can You Be Sure That Your Voting Systems and Technologies are Secure?

In today's world, system security is a top priority in any voting and election program. The absence of a proper security program is simply NOT an option. Fortunately, there's SLI Compliance. We offer end-to-end security test methods designed to validate the security and privacy of all aspects of your voting system. Our focus is on vulnerabilities that could compromise confidentiality, integrity, and availability of each aspect of the system, voter experience, election social experience, servers, and websites. Where risks are identified, we itemize corrective actions and compensating controls, including system configurations and architecture that can mitigate concerns...

[Learn More](#)

---

## What's New in Voting?

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### [EAC Election Day 2018 Statement](#)

*Silver Spring, Md.* – As polls open for Election Day 2018, the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) commends the tremendous work of state and local election officials, who spend each day working to ensure secure, accessible and efficient elections. The EAC is proud to stand with them in the work to help America vote.

In recognition of this important partnership and the EAC's unique mandate, EAC Chairman Thomas Hicks and Vice Chair Christy McCormick issued the following statement: [Continue Reading...](#)

### [Commissioners Commemorate Legacy and Impact of HAVA on 16th Anniversary of Landmark Legislation](#)

*Silver Spring, Md.* – [Oct. 29th] marks

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000643

the 16th anniversary of the signing of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) by President George W. Bush, watershed legislation that improved the accessibility and administration of Federal Elections and established the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) to provide guidance and resources to election officials around the country. [Continue Reading...](#)

---

## Other SLI News

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### **SLI Compliance® Attends the AHA 2018- 2019 'Go Red For Women' Luncheon**

SLI Compliance® attended the 2018-2019 'Go Red For Women' Luncheon hosted by the American Heart Association. The event took place at 12pm on Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Hyatt Regency in Downtown Denver...

[Continue Reading](#)

---

### **Our Career Open-House Was a Success!**

SLI Compliance hosted a Career Open-House at our Wheat Ridge, CO office location on Friday, November 9th, 2018. The attending group was able to experience first hand what Health IT and Voting testing and certification is all about. The group toured our facilities, viewed our labs and interacted with our management staff to learn what it's like to be a part of these fast-paced, rapidly evolving industries. Several attendees are moving forward in the interview process with SLI and our parent organization, Gaming Laboratories International. Though the Open-House was a success, we still have several open positions in Information Technology and are continuing to look for skilled professionals to join our team! To view our open positions, [click here](#).

---

## **We're Hiring!**

---

***Are you looking for a unique and rewarding career with the opportunity to grow your skill-set in the technology industry?***

SLI Compliance is a growing company with over 25 years of experience in providing a full range of high quality certification and compliance testing



services. We offer challenging career opportunities in some of the most regulated industries. We believe our value is weighted in our staff and we seek to employ highly experienced and motivated professionals.

Open Postions:

### **Senior Test Engineer**

**Location:** Wheat Ridge, CO

Apply Now!

---

Seasons Greetings from SLI Compliance

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**Questions?** Contact us today at  
844.754.8683

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This message was sent to [mhogan@coj.net](mailto:mhogan@coj.net) from [mrogers@slicompliance.com](mailto:mrogers@slicompliance.com)

-----

**From:** American Civil Rights Union <info@theacru.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 26, 2018 10:27 AM EDT  
**To:** Hogan, Mike <MHogan@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Supervisor feedback

Dear Supervisor Hogan:

The American Civil Rights Union is interested in determining the use of certain voter list maintenance procedures. I hope that you will assist us by answering the following questions. (Please just reply to [info@theacru.org](mailto:info@theacru.org) and add your answers.)

Does your office receive juror change of address updates from your Clerk of Circuit Court? ☐ YES ☐ NO  
If yes, how often? \_\_\_\_\_

Does your office receive information on the ineligibility of jurors (i.e. felon, non-citizen) from your Clerk of Circuit Court? ☐  
YES ☐ NO  
If yes, how often? \_\_\_\_\_

In what format do you receive this information (i.e. spreadsheet, copy of questionnaires?)  
\_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to provide additional detail about the sharing of data between the Clerks of Circuit Court, Division of Elections or DMV and your office, please tell us how in your reply.

Thank you very much for providing this information. Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jan Tyler  
Florida Director  
[info@theacru.org](mailto:info@theacru.org)  
(303) 929-2066

---

**[www.theACRU.org](http://www.theACRU.org)**

American Civil Rights Union  
3213 Duke St., #625  
Alexandria, VA 22314

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Sent by [info@theacru.org](mailto:info@theacru.org)  
in collaboration with

Try it free today

**From:** Phillips, Robert  
**Sent:** Friday, May 04, 2018 3:23 PM EDT  
**To:** info@theacru.org <info@theacru.org>  
**CC:** Hogan, Mike <MHogan@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Supervisor feedback

Dear Supervisor Hogan:

The American Civil Rights Union is interested in determining the use of certain voter list maintenance procedures. I hope that you will assist us by answering the following questions. (Please just reply to [info@theacru.org](mailto:info@theacru.org) and add your answers.)

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If yes, how often? \_\_\_\_monthly\_\_\_\_

Does your office receive information on the ineligibility of jurors (i.e. felon, non-citizen) from your Clerk of Circuit Court? [☒] YES [☐] NO

YES [☐] NO

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Sincerely,

Jan Tyler  
Florida Director  
[info@theacru.org](mailto:info@theacru.org)  
(303) 929-2066

***Robert Phillips***

***Chief Elections Officer***

Duval County Supervisor of Elections

[www.DuvalElections.com](http://www.DuvalElections.com)

phone: (904) 630-8018

fax: (904) 630-2920

cell: (904) 219-1105

**\*\*Please note that under Florida's very broad public records law, communications to and from city officials are subject to public disclosure\*\***

*[Quis Custodiet Ipsos Custodies?](#)*

**From:** Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 04, 2018 3:23 PM EDT  
**To:** info@theacru.org <info@theacru.org>  
**CC:** Hogan, Mike <MHogan@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Supervisor feedback

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Jan Tyler  
Florida Director  
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***Robert Phillips***

***Chief Elections Officer***

Duval County Supervisor of Elections

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cell: (904) 219-1105

**\*\*Please note that under Florida's very broad public records law, communications to and from city officials are subject to public disclosure\*\***

*[Quis Custodiet Ipsos Custodies?](#)*

**From:** Science Fiction Reality <science.fiction.reality@haunteddomains.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 07, 2018 11:09 AM EDT  
**To:** Frame, William <WFrame@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Tech comp poised for massive growth

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## How Do I Make Money Investing By In Biotech?

Looking to get a foot in the door with biotech investments? Since 2010, Biotech is the only sector that can have ‘overnight’ success stories. Your chosen company successfully prototypes a life-saving drug? Bam. Your stock has skyrocketed to 10x its initial value.

How to I start?

- Get warned about [potential money-making stocks](#) early.
- Keep up to date on the Biotech field with an [insider subscription service](#).
- Get involved in the leading Biotech peer-to-peer network and [learn about investments first](#).

SMX attendee

□

**From:** Ed Feulner <info@heritage.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 14, 2017 11:08 AM EDT  
**To:** Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net>  
**Subject:** The clock is ticking

Robert,

Generous members of Heritage's Board have promised to match all donations that we receive, up to \$1 million—but the deadline for this matching campaign is midnight tomorrow.

**That means you have less than 48 hours from either taking full advantage of the matching gift or missing out on it. [Make your gift now >>](#)**

As you know, The Heritage Foundation's purpose is to craft and communicate rigorous conservative policy research to the president, Congress, and the American people.

Will you help us promote the conservative principles of free enterprise, limited government, individual freedom, traditional American values, and a strong national defense by taking advantage of the matching challenge?

Any amount will help us to reach our goal of doubling the potential \$1 million contribution.

Make your gift now using this secure link:

<https://secured.heritage.org/boardchallenge>

Thank you for standing with us at this important time.

With gratitude,

Ed Feulner  
President

The Heritage Foundation

The Heritage Foundation | 214 Massachusetts Avenue, NE | Washington, D.C. 20002 | (800) 546-2843

You are subscribed to Heritage Foundation e-mails as phillips@coj.net. If you want to change your e-mail preferences, [please click here to update your subscription](#).

-

**From:** Tom Fitton <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 9:41 AM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** The DC swamp is doubling down its efforts to force President Trump from office

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Judicial Watch

Dear Fellow American,

[Can I count on you to make your best tax-deductible contribution to Judicial Watch now?](#)

CONTRIBUTE

With your financial support means so much to me because we are carrying our largest caseload in our twenty-five year history!

With your support you will help us pierce the veil of secrecy around the unlawful Deep State conspiracy to bring down President Trump while battling for accountability in the Clinton email/Clinton Foundation/national security breach scandals.

We also continue to lead the challenge to illegal alien sanctuary policies across the country and are fighting to protect the integrity of our elections.

**We must keep all our work on track as we pursue lawsuits in federal courts and conduct comprehensive investigations including:**

- Getting to the truth, to accountability, and to justice in the Hillary Clinton email scandal and cover-up;
- Further exposing the U.S. government's taxpayer subsidy of billionaire George Soros' radical network of leftist organizations at home and abroad;
- Ramping up our **Election Integrity Project** and leading the fight for clean voter rolls;

**No one else can match our leadership and record of success in forcing the Deep State to release government documents that the American people have a right to see; exposing improper use of U.S. government funds to advance George Soros' radical agenda; and fighting for honest elections!**

And our work has never been more important. It is increasingly clear that the Washington Establishment is doubling down in its efforts to illicitly force Donald Trump from office...and only Judicial Watch is using the courts to expose this "coup" against the U.S. Constitution and the rule of law>!

[That's why I'm hoping you'll stand with us again by making your best tax-deductible contribution to Judicial Watch now!](#)

Your support will allow us to investigate corruption, do critical research, file groundbreaking new lawsuits and persist with dogged determination in our ongoing litigation. In other words, you are the lifeblood of all we do to fight Big Government lawlessness, secrecy and corruption. You are an important member of our team!

Judicial Watch is the acknowledged leader in standing firm for the rule of law We are conservative, independent and non-partisan...and we can meet all these challenges...with your renewed support! Thank you.

ervative, independent and non-partisan...and we can meet all these challenges...with your support! Thank you.

Sincerely,

AMERICAN  
OVERSIGHT

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000652



Thomas Fitton

President

P.S. [Please stand with us today in our fight for accountability and against public corruption and unlawful government secrecy by making your most generous, tax-deductible gift now.](#) Thank you!

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**From:** Jim DeMint <info@heritage.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 22, 2016 11:32 AM EST  
**To:** Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net>  
**Subject:** The inaction of our leaders

Robert,

Despite recent conservative victories, **America still has an enemy at the gates: the inaction of our leaders.** We need to work together to build and lead an American resurgence in 2017, and The Heritage Foundation is on the front lines leading the charge.

[When you make your year-end gift to support the work of the Heritage Foundation](#), you fight inaction by supporting our plan to restore America after eight years of destructive liberal policies and you drain the swamp of stagnant public policy.

[Your gift today](#) will **allow Heritage to fight inaction by helping our conservative leaders advance conservative solutions** — solutions that will make life better for you, me, our families, and future generations.

The Heritage Foundation has been promoting policy solutions based on conservative principles since 1973, and with your help we can continue to do so for many years -- and presidential administrations -- to come.

You can give your tax-deductible year-end gift using this secure link: [myheritage.org/stand-with-heritage](https://myheritage.org/stand-with-heritage)

Thank you for standing for conservative principles.

Jim DeMint  
President

The Heritage Foundation

You are subscribed to Heritage Foundation e-mails as phillips@coj.net. If you'd rather not hear from me again, you can respond back to this email or [click here to update your preferences](#).

-

**From:** JW Action <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 11, 2019 2:30 PM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** The Sun City Cell – Investigative Documentary by Judicial Watch (VIDEO)

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**Web Version**

[Judicial Watch' />](#)

*“The border city of El Paso, Texas used to have extremely high rates of violent crime — one of the highest in the entire country, and considered one of our nation’s most dangerous cities. Now, immediately upon its building, with a powerful barrier in place, El Paso is one of the safest cities in our country. Simply put: Walls work, and walls save lives.”*

– President Donald Trump, State of the Union message, Feb 5, 2019

Dear Judicial Watch Supporter,

Later today, President Donald Trump is journeying to El Paso, Texas, to help promote his efforts to secure America’s border against the illegal alien invasion.

In their efforts to undermine the President, the left is spreading the myth that El Paso has never had a problem with illegal aliens and the crime they spawn.

But, as is so often the case, Judicial Watch was well ahead of the game in setting the record straight.

And this riveting video – featuring JW’s highly esteemed Director of Investigations, Chris Farrell -- is a must watch for all who want to know – and spread – the truth about the illegal alien threat to America’s security:

□

your family and friend.

And thank you for your continuing support for Judicial Watch.

Sincerely,

Carter L. Clews  
Director of Communications

[ACT02](#)

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judicialwatch.org

**From:** JW Newslink <press@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 02, 2019 10:30 AM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** The Tables Turn in Russian Collusion Hunt

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email originated from a non-COJ email address. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

NEWSLINK

## BREAKING NEWS...

600x300

### The Tables Turn in Russian Collusion Hunt

Source: [American Greatness](#)

The irony of the entire Russian collusion hoax is that accusers who cried the loudest about leaking, collusion, lying, and obstruction are themselves soon very likely to be accused of just those crimes.

☐ [READ  
MORE](#)

## Background Notes from Judicial Watch

180x150x1

2019-02-19

### Judicial Watch Sues for the 'Coup Documents'

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Judicial Watch sued the  
Department of Justice for  
all communication of  
former FBI Deputy Director  
Andrew McCabe, the

Office of the Attorney General Jeff Sessions, or the Office of Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein discussing the 25th Amendment or presidential fitness.

☐ [READ MORE](#)

180x150x2

2019-03-24

**Judicial Watch  
Statement on the  
Mueller Report**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton: Let's be clear, neither Mueller, the Obama FBI, DOJ, CIA, State Department, nor the Deep State ever had a good-faith basis to pursue President Trump on Russia collusion. Russia collusion wasn't just a hoax, it is a criminal abuse, which is why Judicial Watch has fought and will continue to fight for Russiagate documents in federal court.

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2019-03-13

**Judicial Watch  
Announces  
Depositions of  
Senior Obama  
Officials and Hillary  
Clinton Aides**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

The court has ordered senior Obama-era State Department officials, lawyers, and Clinton aides to provide answers under

oath to Judicial Watch's questions about the Benghazi and Clinton email scandals.

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## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: A DOJ Spying Investigation would be a Win for the Rule of Law

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "Fox and Friends" on the Fox News Channel to discuss President Trump's request for a DOJ probe into whether the FBI infiltrated his campaign.

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Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: Rosenstein Needs to be Removed or Investigated

September 25, 2018- Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on the "Intelligence Report with Trish Regan" on the Fox Business Network to discuss what to expect from President Trump's meeting with Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein.

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Article-Image

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**From:** Tom Fitton <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019 11:24 AM EDT

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** The Washington Establishment is doubling down in its efforts to illicitly force Donald Trump from office

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email originated from a non-COJ email address. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Judicial Watch

Dear Fellow American,

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## CONTRIBUTE

With your financial support means so much to me because we are carrying our largest caseload in our twenty-five year history!

With your support you will help us pierce the veil of secrecy around the unlawful Deep State conspiracy to bring down President Trump while battling for accountability in the Clinton email/Clinton Foundation/national security breach scandals.

We also continue to lead the challenge to illegal alien sanctuary policies across the country and are fighting to protect the integrity of our elections.

**We must keep all our work on track as we pursue lawsuits in federal courts and conduct comprehensive investigations including:**

- Getting to the truth, to accountability, and to justice in the Hillary Clinton email scandal and cover-up;
- Further exposing the U.S. government's taxpayer subsidy of billionaire George Soros' radical network of leftist organizations at home and abroad;
- Ramping up our **Election Integrity Project** and leading the fight for clean voter rolls;

**No one else can match our leadership and record of success in forcing the Deep State to release government documents that the American people have a right to see; exposing improper use of U.S. government funds to advance George Soros' radical agenda; and fighting for honest elections!**

And our work has never been more important. It is increasingly clear that the Washington Establishment is doubling down in its efforts to illicitly force Donald Trump from office...and only Judicial Watch is using the courts to expose this "coup" against the U.S. Constitution and the rule of law>!

[That's why I'm hoping you'll stand with us again by making your best tax-deductible contribution to Judicial Watch now!](#)

Your support will allow us to investigate corruption, do critical research, file groundbreaking new lawsuits and persist with dogged determination in our ongoing litigation. In other words, you are the lifeblood of all we do to fight Big Government lawlessness, secrecy and corruption. You are an important member of our team!

Judicial Watch is the acknowledged leader in standing firm for the rule of law We are conservative, independent and non-partisan...and we can meet all these challenges...with your renewed support! Thank you.

ervative, independent and non-partisan...and we can meet all these challenges...with your support! Thank you.

Sincerely,

AMERICAN  
OVERSIGHT

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000661

Thomas Fitton

President

P.S. [Please stand with us today in our fight for accountability and against public corruption and unlawful government secrecy by making your most generous, tax-deductible gift now.](#) Thank you!

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**From:** Twitter <info@twitter.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 08, 2017 4:58 PM EDT  
**To:** Hinson, Linda <LHinson@coj.net>  
**Subject:** TheBlaze Tweeted: Reporter says Colin Kaepernick will stand for national anthem — but there's way more to the story

# Your Highlights



**TheBlaze**  
@theblaze

Reporter says Colin Kaepernick will stand for national anthem — but there's way more to the story

Reporter says Colin Kaepernick will stand for national anthem — but there's way more to the story


Reports about Colin Kaepernick swirled ...

theblaze.com

38

12

15




**Dana Loesch**  
@DLoesch

LOL still [twitter.com/mikeallen/stat...](#)

75

110

510




**Cody Worsham**  
@CodyWorsham

RIP Tom Petty.

1.5K

49K

120K



**Heritage Foundation**  
@Heritage

Contrary to its intent, early voting may actually decrease voter turnout.

The Costs of Early Voting | The Heritage Foundation


Until the late 1980s, Americans had two ways to vote: (1) in person on Election Day, or (2) a... [more](#)

heritage.org

5

25

30




**J.R. Salzma..**  
@jrsalzman

Americans ask Europeans the exact same question about soccer. [twitter.com/richarddawkins...](#)

21

36

190



**Dave Chapma..**  
@WriterChapman

..... how did they lose to the Jets?

1

3

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We sent this email to @LhinsonLinda  
Twitter, Inc. 1355 Market Street, Suite 900 San Francisco, CA 94103

From: Twitter <info@twitter.com>  
Sent: Saturday, October 28, 2017 6:44 PM EDT  
To: Hinson, Linda <LHinson@coj.net>  
Subject: TheBlaze Tweeted: Sean Hannity has a theory about what the latest Mueller investigation development really means

Joe V, Garrett David Lingle, DrConsrvaMom, Dana Loesch, Heritage Foundation also Tweeted.

Â

Your Highlights

TheBlaze  
@theblaze

Sean Hannity has a theory about what the latest Mueller investigation development really means

Sean Hannity has a theory about what the latest Mueller investigation development really means

What did he say? Writing on â\200!

theblaze.com

Â 28

Â 49

Â 93

Robert Phillips liked

Joe V  
@Joe\_Vizz1

Sums up the McElwain era. [twitter.com/pat\\_dooley/staâ\200](https://twitter.com/pat_dooley/staâ\200)

Â 1

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Â 8

Dan Elkins liked

Garrett David Lingle  
@GarrettLingle

Just get a field goal please. [twitter.com/danhicken/status/2001](https://twitter.com/danhicken/status/2001)

1

Robert Phillips liked

DrConsrvaMom  
@ConservaMomUSA



#Antifa has been diligently practicing for their #Nov4th â\200\234CivilWarâ\200  
\235- so not worried [pic.twitter.com/OFVb8SivdR](https://pic.twitter.com/OFVb8SivdR)

â 160

â 750

â 1.3K

Dana Loesch  
@DLoesch

Starbucks has a caloriffic zombie frapp.

Distractify

Distractify is a leading entertainment company in the mobile era.  
distractify.com

Â 31

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Â 65

Heritage Foundation  
@Heritage

The federal government's heavy-handed policies have made higher education more expensive and unattainable for many.

Seven Essential Policies for a Higher Education Act Reauthorization | The Heritage Foundation

Policies that will bring meaningful and needed change to the higher education sector should be... more

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27

31

59

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**From:** JW Newslink <press@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 1:57 PM EST

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** These volunteers spent 21 years comforting dying veterans, now the VA is evicting them

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NEWSLINK

## BREAKING NEWS...

600x300

### These volunteers spent 21 years comforting dying veterans, now the VA is evicting them

Source: [Daily News](#)

The Veterans Affairs hospital in West Los Angeles is evicting a volunteer group that spent 21 years at the bedsides of dying patients who otherwise would have been alone in their final moments.

[READ MORE](#)

## Background Notes from Judicial Watch

180x150x1

2019-02-07

**VA Evicts Groups  
that Help Vets; Dog  
Park, Baseball  
Stadium, Prep  
School Athletic  
Fields, Upscale  
Store Parking Stay**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000673

The Los Angeles Veterans Affairs (VA) facility that illegally rents its sprawling grounds to institutions that don't serve veterans just evicted several groups dedicated to veterans, including a nonprofit that for decades has comforted dying vets and another that helps those who are disabled.

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2018-10-02

**Audit Reveals  
Corruption in Illegal  
VA Land Sharing  
Deals at LA Facility**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

A federal audit exposes rampant fraud and corruption involving the illicit land sharing agreements made by crooked VA officials. Judicial Watch launched an investigation into the deals and has two Freedom of Information Act requests pending.

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180x150x3

2018-02-27

**VA Pays Big to  
Reimburse Business  
for Ending Illegal  
Contracts at L.A.  
Facility**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

The Los Angeles Veterans Affairs (VA) facility that illegally leased out chunks of its huge parcel to private

businesses paid hundreds of thousands of dollars to reimburse some for terminating the unlawful agreements, records obtained by Judicial Watch show. It marks the latest in a series of scandals to rock the sprawling southern California VA campus forced by a lawsuit to use the land for its intended purpose of helping vets, especially those who are homeless.

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## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: Democrats in Congress on a 'fishing expedition' for President Trump

February 7, 2019- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on One America News Network to discuss the Democrat-controlled Congress opening investigations into President Trump.

 [READ MORE](#)

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: At Least 11 FBI Payments went to Steele

August 5, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on "Fox and Friends" on the Fox News Channel to discuss The FBI released 71 pages of redacted documents tied to the bureau's relationship with Christopher Steele.

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**From:** JW Corruption Chronicles <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 01, 2019 5:21 PM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Thousands of Illegal Aliens from Terrorist Nations Live in U.S. after Being “Deported”

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CORRUPTION CHRONICLES

## Thousands of Illegal Aliens from Terrorist Nations Live in U.S. after Being “Deported”

Months after Judicial Watch [reported](#) that migrants from terrorist nations try to enter the U.S. via Mexico at record rates, government figures show that more than 10,000 illegal aliens from countries that sponsor terrorism currently live here. It's not clear how they entered the country but federal authorities know about them because they have either been deported or have final removal orders pending. Nevertheless, they are not in custody and roam freely in unsuspecting communities throughout America.

The distressing statistics were obtained from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) by a public interest [group](#) that favors secure borders and exposes the harms of mass migration. The Washington D.C. nonprofit filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request and made the [figures](#) public this month. They show 10,340 non-detained illegal immigrants from Iran, Syria, Sudan and North Korea on ICE's national docket as of June 2018. Iran tops the list with 6,331, followed by Syria (2,128), Sudan (1,860) and North Korea (21). All four countries have been designated as [sponsors of terrorism](#) by the State Department.

The U.S. government has determined that Iran is the [“foremost state sponsor of terrorism”](#) because it provides a range of support, including financial, training and equipment, to groups worldwide, particularly Hezbollah. Syria is also a hotbed of Hezbollah militants and Al Qaeda-linked jihadists. A recent RAND Corporation [study](#) concluded that the most significant threat to the United States comes from terrorist groups operating in a handful of Middle Eastern countries that include Syria, Yemen, Afghanistan and Pakistan. The State Department also classifies Syria as a dangerous country plagued by terrorism. “There is a terrorist threat from violent extremist groups including the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, (ISIL), formerly known as al-Qa’ida in Iraq (AQ), the al-Nusrah Front, and others,” according to the [State Department assessment](#). “Tactics for these groups include the use of suicide bombers, kidnapping, use of small and heavy arms, and improvised explosive devices in major city centers, including Damascus, Aleppo, Hamah, Dara, Homs, Idlib, and Dayr al-Zawr.”

During the Syrian refugee crisis, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) admitted that dozens of Syrian nationals [suspected of having terrorist ties](#) slipped into the U.S. The agency tried to downplay the travesty, claiming that federal agents missed “possible derogatory information” about the immigrants due to “a lapse in vetting.” Among those who slipped through the cracks is a man who failed a polygraph test after applying to work at a U.S. military installation and another who communicated with an Islamic State leader. Regardless, President Obama let thousands of Syrians settle in the U.S. even as his own intelligence and immigration officials warned that individuals with ties to terrorist groups used the program to infiltrate the country and that there was no way to properly screen refugees.

Along the southern border federal agents routinely encounter individuals from terrorist nations and DHS considers them one of the top threats to the United States. The government classifies them as Special Interest Aliens (SIA) and they are flowing north via Latin America in huge numbers thanks to established Transitional Criminal Organizations (TCO) that facilitate travel along drug and migrant smuggling routes. An investigation completed by Congress earlier this year found that tens of thousands of SIAs—from the Middle East, Asia and Africa—entered Panama and Colombia in the past few years. Nearly all the SIA migrants were headed to the United States and most came from Syria, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Somalia, Bangladesh and India. Encounters with the special interest individuals resulted in the seizure of tens of thousands of fraudulent

FL-DUVAL-19-0522-A-000677

documents—including passports and visas—that facilitated travel from their countries of origin through the Americas, according to a [report](#) released earlier this year by the congressional committee that conducted the probe.

The famously porous Mexican border is an easy pathway into the U.S. for many SIAs. In Laredo, Texas alone authorities report an astounding 300% increase in immigrants from Bangladesh, a south Asian Islamic country well known as a recruiting ground for terrorist groups such as ISIS and Al-Qaeda Indian Subcontinent (AQIS).

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: Robert Mueller is Being Protected by Rod Rosenstein over Trump/Russia Probe

October 23, 2018 – JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Daily Ledger” on One America News Network to discuss the Mueller Probe and Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein’s closed congressional testimony.

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### Tom Fitton: Democrats in Congress on a ‘fishing expedition’ for President Trump

February 7, 2019- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on One America News Network to discuss the Democrat-controlled Congress opening investigations into President Trump.

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**From:** JW On the Air Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 19, 2019 3:46 PM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Tom Fitton: Bill Barr Needs to Step Up and Defend Trump (VIDEO)

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**Tom Fitton: Bill Barr Needs to Step Up and Defend Trump**

□

On February 19, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Lou Dobbs Tonight” on the Fox Business Network to discuss how former FBI Director Andrew McCabe said that he briefly discussed invoking the 25th Amendment with Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein and other DOJ and FBI problems.





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**From:** JW On the Air Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Monday, March 11, 2019 4:51 PM EDT

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** Tom Fitton: Christopher Steele & Bruce Ohr Communicated 'REPEATEDLY' on How to Target Donald Trump (VIDEO)

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INSIDE JW

## Tom Fitton: Christopher Steele & Bruce Ohr Communicated 'REPEATEDLY' on How to Target Donald Trump

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on "Lou Dobbs Tonight" on the Fox Business Network to discuss new DOJ/Fusion GPS records & the report that Rep. Adam Schiff's (D-Calif.) staff had met with former Trump attorney Michael Cohen at least four times before Cohen's testimony on Capitol Hill. Read more about the records we uncovered [HERE](#).



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**From:** JW On the Air Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 15, 2019 5:34 PM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Tom Fitton: Deep State is Targeting Trump with an Illicit Investigation (VIDEO)

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**Tom Fitton: Deep State is Targeting Trump with an Illicit Investigation**

□

On January 14, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Fox and Friends First” on the Fox News Channel to discuss New York Times article on Russian Investigation.

**Tom Fitton: DOJ, Obama Never Enforced Voter Integrity**

□

On January 9, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Daily Ledger” on One America News Network to discuss Judicial Watch’s lawsuit forcing California to clean its voter rolls.

**Tom Fitton: Suspected Terrorists Trying to Infiltrate Southern Border is a National Emergency**

□

On January 8, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Tucker Carlson Tonight” on the Fox News Channel to discuss suspected terrorists apprehended on the Southern border.



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**From:** Inside JW <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 21, 2019 10:48 AM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Tom Fitton: Deep State PROTECTING Hillary Clinton to Help Overthrow President Trump (VIDEO)

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## Tom Fitton: Deep State PROTECTING Hillary Clinton to Help Overthrow President Trump

□

In this episode of “Inside Judicial Watch,” host Bruce Schlesman joins JW President Tom Fitton to discuss the latest news on the Clinton email scandal, the Deep State targeting President Trump and protecting Hillary Clinton, Judicial Watch’s battle for election integrity, & more!

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton on WMAL: Hillary Clinton ORDERED by Court to Answer Key Questions on Email Server

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Mornings on the Mall” on WMAL Radio to discuss U.S. District Court Judge Emmet G. Sullivan ruled that within 30 days Clinton must answer under oath two additional questions about her controversial email system.

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### Tom Fitton: Rosenstein Needs to be Removed or Investigated

September 25, 2018- Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on the “Intelligence Report with Trish Regan” on the Fox Business Network to discuss what to expect from President Trump’s meeting with Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein.



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**From:** JW On the Air Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 02, 2019 9:27 AM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Tom Fitton: DNC Worked With Russian Intel to Overthrow the President (VIDEO)

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## Tom Fitton: DNC Worked With Russian Intel to Overthrow the President

□

On April 29, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Hannity” on the Fox News Channel to discuss the Russian investigation and new revelations in Peter Stroz and Lisa Page text messages.

### Tom Fitton: Barack Obama Should be Questioned Under Oath about SpyGate & Trump Targeting

□

On April 30, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Lou Dobbs Tonight” on the Fox Business Network to discuss the Mueller Report and Democrats’ calls for President Trump to release his tax returns.



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**From:** JW On the Air Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 09, 2019 6:03 PM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Tom Fitton: DOJ has been 'Rogue Agency' Part of Coup Effort against President Trump (VIDEO)

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## Tom Fitton: DOJ has been 'Rogue Agency' Part of Coup Effort against President Trump

□

On April 8, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on "Lou Dobbs Tonight" on the Fox Business Network to discuss the efforts made by some on the far-left to undermine President Trump.





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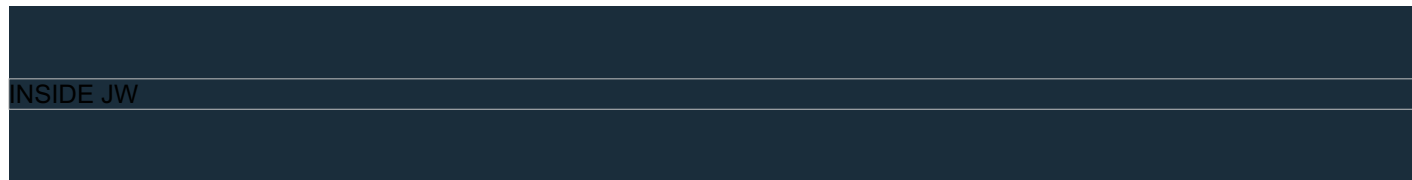
**From:** JW On the Air Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 13, 2019 10:36 AM EST

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** Tom Fitton: El Paso Region is 'Freeway' for Drug/Human Trafficking & Terrorism (VIDEO)

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## Tom Fitton: El Paso Region is 'Freeway' for Drug/Human Trafficking & Terrorism

□

On February 11, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on "Lou Dobbs Tonight" on the Fox Business Network to discuss a 'sophisticated narco-terror network' in El Paso, TX.

## Tom Fitton: Democrats in Congress on a 'fishing expedition' for President Trump

□

On February 11, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on "Lou Dobbs Tonight" on the Fox Business Network to discuss a 'sophisticated narco-terror network' in El Paso, TX.

## Tom Fitton: The Deep State Swamp Doesn't Care about our National Security if it Means Getting Trump

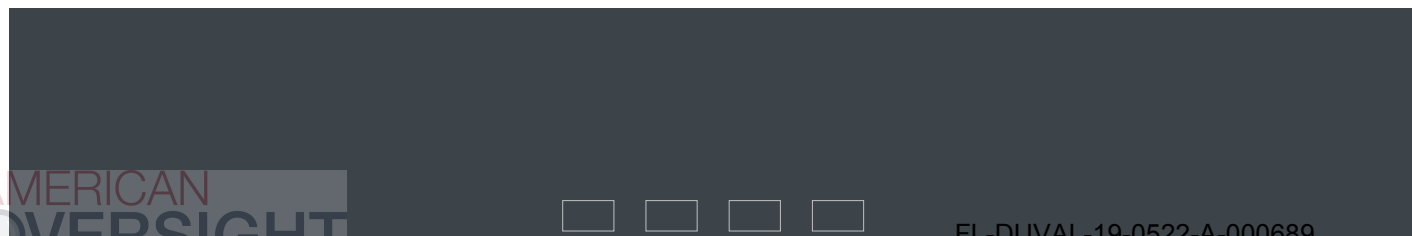
□

On February 8, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on "The Joe Pags Show" on Newsmax TV to discuss the latest news on the Mueller probe into alleged Trump/Russia collusion during the 2016 election.

## Tom Fitton: Southern Border Has to be Secured w/ Military—Civilian Personnel NOT Enough

□

On February 7, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on "The Lars Larson Show" on Lars Larson Radio to discuss President Trump's remarks on border security and illegal immigration.



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**From:** JW On the Air Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 17, 2019 5:34 PM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Tom Fitton: Federal Judge Asked if Benghazi Scandal & Clinton Email Scandal are Linked (VIDEO)

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**Tom Fitton: Federal Judge Asked if Benghazi Scandal & Clinton Email Scandal are Linked**



On January 16, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Outnumbered OT” on the Fox News Channel to discuss the latest news on the Benghazi & Clinton email scandals.





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**From:** JW On the Air Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2019 2:20 PM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Tom Fitton: Mueller Probe Plans on Harassing Trump for Entire Term (VIDEO)

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## Tom Fitton: Mueller Probe Plans on Harassing Trump for Entire Term

□

On February 5, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Lou Dobbs Tonight” on the Fox Business Network to discuss the Paul Manafort hearing, the Mueller Probe, and more.





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**From:** JW On the Air Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 04, 2019 2:54 PM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Tom Fitton: Mueller Should not be Allowed to Write Another Anti-Trump Dossier (VIDEO)

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**Tom Fitton: Mueller Should not be Allowed to Write Another Anti-Trump Dossier**

□

On March 2, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Justice with Judge Jeanine” on the Fox News Channel to discuss the upcoming Mueller report and President Trump’s recent criticism of the Mueller Probe.



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**From:** JW On the Air Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Monday, April 08, 2019 2:57 PM EDT

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** Tom Fitton: Our Republic on the Brink with the Border Crisis and the Effort to Overthrow Trump (VIDEO)

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INSIDE JW

## Tom Fitton: Our Republic on the Brink with the Border Crisis and the Effort to Overthrow Trump

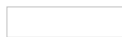
□

On April 4, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Lou Dobbs Tonight” on the Fox Business Network to discuss President Trump’s resolute commitment to secure the U.S. southern border despite the massive economic and political forces raiding against the White House.

## Tom Fitton: SpyGate 'The Worst Corruption Scandal in American History'

□

On "American Thought Leaders," Jan Jekielek of The Epoch Times interviewed Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton on the Clinton email scandal and effort to target Donald Trump during and after the 2016 election.



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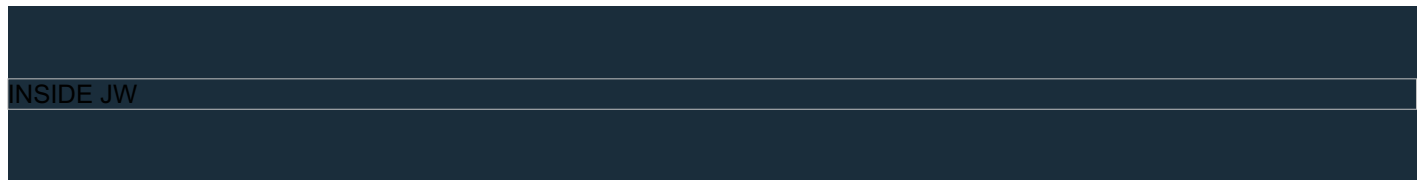
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**From:** JW On the Air Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 25, 2019 11:39 AM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Tom Fitton: Pelosi Abuses Use of Luxury Travel (VIDEO)

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### Tom Fitton: Pelosi Abuses Use of Luxury Travel

□

On January 25, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Fox and Friends First” on the Fox News Channel to discuss use of a military aircraft to Afghanistan, he called the public’s attention to wasteful taxpayer-funded congressional travel.

### Tom Fitton: Senate Intelligence Committee is Anti-Trump Controlled

□

On January 24, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Lou Dobbs Tonight” on the Fox Business Network to discuss how the Senate Intelligence Committee subpoenaed President Trump’s former lawyer Michael Cohen.

### Tom Fitton: Mueller is Illicitly Targeting & Harassing President Trump—DOJ Must Shut it Down

□

On January 23, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Mornings on the Mall” on WMAL to discuss Robert Mueller’s office refuting a Buzzfeed story about the ongoing probe into alleged Trump/Russia collusion during the 2016 election.



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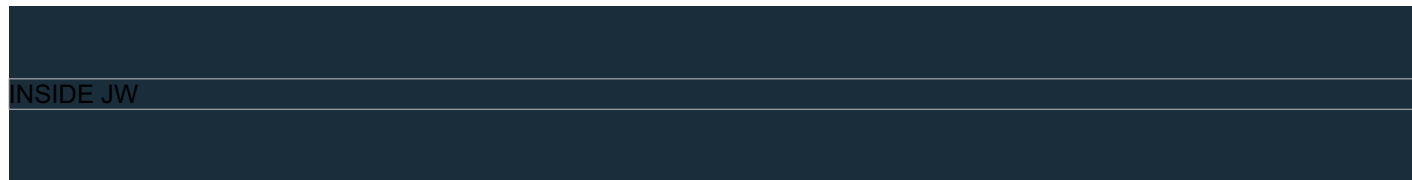
**From:** JW On the Air Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 02, 2019 1:41 PM EDT

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** Tom Fitton: Rep. Adam Schiff Should Step Down—CANNOT Be Trusted to Handle Classified Info (VIDEO)

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## Tom Fitton: Rep. Adam Schiff Should Step Down—CANNOT Be Trusted to Handle Classified Info

□

On April 1, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Lou Dobbs Tonight” on the Fox Business Network to discuss how House Democrats are planning to vote on whether to authorize subpoenas for special counsel Robert Mueller’s Russia probe report.

## Chris Farrell: Are Govt Officials Peddling Stories to CNN?

□

On March 29, Judicial Watch Director of Investigations and Research Chris Farrell appeared on Sinclair TV to discuss the Russia/Trump Dossier and the Russian Collusion investigation.



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**From:** JW On the Air Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 05, 2019 11:44 AM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Tom Fitton: Rep. Schiff's Investigation a 'Remarkable' Abuse of Power (VIDEO)

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**Tom Fitton: Rep. Schiff's Investigation a 'Remarkable' Abuse of Power**



On March 4, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on "Lou Dobbs Tonight" on the Fox Business Network to discuss how the Trump administration should react to the new investigation launched by House Democrats.





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**From:** JW On the Air Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 21, 2019 2:11 PM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Tom Fitton: Rosenstein/Mueller Control the DOJ- Business As Usual at the Deep State (VIDEO)

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**Tom Fitton: Rosenstein/Mueller Control the DOJ- Business As Usual at the Deep State**



On March 21, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Lou Dobbs Tonight” on the Fox Business Network to discuss Rod Rosenstein continuing on as the Deputy Attorney General.





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**From:** JW On the Air Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 07, 2019 2:20 PM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Tom Fitton: Securing the Border is a Moral Duty (VIDEO)

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## Tom Fitton: Securing the Border is a Moral Duty

□

On February 7, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Fox and Friends First” on the Fox News Channel to discuss the Border Wall and budget debate over it.

## Tom Fitton: Mueller is ‘Passing the Baton’ to Deep State DOJ to Continue Harassment of Trump

□

On February 6, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “the Larry O’Connor Show” on WMAL Radio to discuss a preview of the State of the Union, details surrounding subpoenas issued to Trump’s inaugural committee, and more.



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**From:** JW On the Air Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 14, 2019 11:05 AM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Tom Fitton: Shady Deal Offered Between FBI and State Dept to Protect Clinton (VIDEO)

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## Tom Fitton: Shady Deal Offered Between FBI and State Dept to Protect Clinton

□

On February 13, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on One America News Network to discuss communications between former FBI lawyer James Baker and Clinton lawyer David Kendall.



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**From:** JW Action <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2019 2:30 PM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Tom Fitton: Spying on Trump was Run out of Obama White House (VIDEO)

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Web Version

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**Fitton Goes Back to Back on  
Fox & Friends First to Critique  
Democrat “Hysteria” Over Barr  
Spying Comment...**

**And Reveal Obama Role in  
“Most Significant Abuse  
of Power in American History”**

Dear Judicial Watch Supporter,

Earlier this morning, Judicial Watch  
President Tom Fitton played a “double  
header” on Fox & Friends First...

And his blockbuster “home-run”  
production was prodigious!

But, enough play-by-play from me –  
let’s go to the tape:

**“Democrats hysterical reaction to  
Barr “spying” comment reveals they  
want a cover-up.”**

□

**“Spying on Trump was run out of  
the Obama White House.”**

□

Sincerely,

Carter L. Clews  
Director of Communications

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**From:** JW On the Air Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019 1:35 PM EST

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** Tom Fitton: Targeting of Trump's Team 'Worst Corruption by DOJ in Modern Times' (VIDEO)

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INSIDE JW

## Tom Fitton: Targeting of Trump's Team 'Worst Corruption by DOJ in Modern Times'

□

On January 29, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on "Fox and Friends First" on the Fox News Channel to discuss Roger Stone's indictment and the Mueller Investigation.

## Tom Fitton: 'Not One Piece of Evidence' of Trump/Russia Collusion in Roger Stone Indictment

□

On January 28, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on "Breitbart News Daily" on Sirius XM Patriot 125 Radio to discuss the latest developments with the Roger Stone indictment by the Mueller special counsel investigation.



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**From:** Inside JW <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 07, 2019 4:42 PM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Tom Fitton: Trump is 'First President in a Generation' Talking Honestly about Border Crisis

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**Tom Fitton: Trump is 'First President in a Generation' Talking Honestly about Border Crisis**

□

In this episode of "Inside Judicial Watch," Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton reacts to President Trump's second State of the Union address, illegal immigration, border security, the latest on the Clinton email scandal, & more!

**Daywatch Updates**

Article-Image

**Tom Fitton on IRS Scandal: 'That's How You Steal an Election in Plain Sight'**

Judicial Watch president Tom Fitton said the IRS effectively "stole an election in plain sight" by targeting conservative groups during the Obama years. Fitton said there are now documents showing the Tea Party was suppressed by the IRS.

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Article-Image

**Tom Fitton: At this Point, Mueller Probe is 'Harassment'**

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on "Fox & Friends First" weighed in on the special counsel probe's impact over the last year and what it could mean for Mueller's final report, reportedly expected by February.

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**From:** JW On the Air Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 28, 2019 3:08 PM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Tom Fitton on Mueller Report: Long National Nightmare Over (VIDEO)

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**Tom Fitton: Long National Nightmare Over**

□

On March 22, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Lou Dobbs Tonight” on the Fox Business Network to discuss the Mueller Report.

**Tom Fitton: Media Knew Russian Collusion Was a Lie**

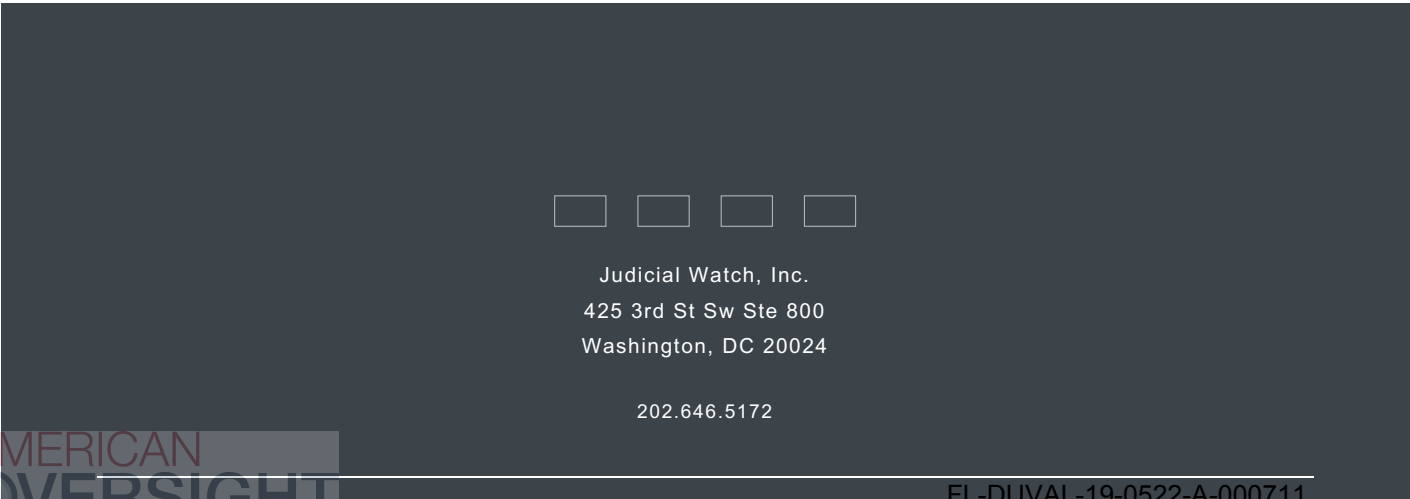
□

ON March 22, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Breitbart News Daily” on Sirius XM Radio to discuss the Mueller special counsel report.

**Tom Fitton: House Dems are Harrassing the President with Abusive Investigations**

□

On March 21, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on One America News Network to discuss Rep. Nadler and House Democrats’ upcoming investigations into President Trump.



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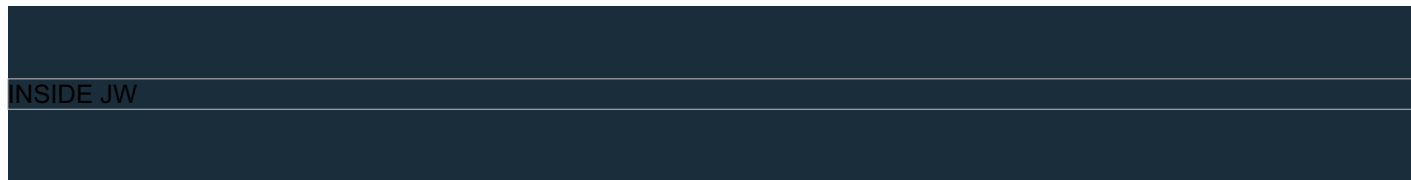
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**From:** Inside JW <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 27, 2019 4:59 PM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Tom Fitton on Mueller Report: Time to Investigate the "Investigators!" (VIDEO)

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**"Russian collusion wasn't just a hoax, it is a criminal abuse – which is why Judicial Watch has fought and will continue to fight for Russiagate documents in federal court. It's time to investigate the 'investigators.'" – Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton, Inside Judicial Watch Special Edition video**

Dear Judicial Watch Supporter,

Robert Mueller has finally brought his bogus, politically motivated assault on Donald Trump – and everyone around him – to an end...

But only after spending more than two years -- and tens of millions of tax dollars -- chasing his tale (pun intended) and doing Hillary Clinton's bidding.

Not so surprisingly, the conclusion at which Mueller arrived is precisely what Judicial Watch has said all along: There was no collusion.

In fact, Judicial Watch filed dozens of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuits to prove it...

And had the Deep State not fought every one of them, the phony case against Trump could have been closed before it was even opened.

Now, in the riveting *Inside Judicial Watch* interview video below, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton puts the entire Mueller witch hunt into perspective...

And he explains why the collusion delusion hasn't really ended –

Because now, Judicial Watch intends to investigate the "investigators"!

This is one 20-minute video you won't want to miss.

□

Sincerely,

Carter L. Clews  
Director of Communications

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: Steele was Working for the Clinton Camp to Target President Trump

August 10, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Hannity” on the Fox News Channel to discuss Judicial Watch lawsuits for DOJ for access to communications between Bruce Ohr, Christopher Steele and Fusion GPS.

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Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: At this Point, Mueller Probe is ‘Harassment’

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on “Fox & Friends First” weighed in on the special counsel probe’s impact over the last year and what it could mean for Mueller’s final report, reportedly expected by February.

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**From:** JW On the Air Report <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 26, 2019 11:52 AM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Tom Fitton Slams Adam Schiff's Threat to Subpoena Mueller (VIDEO)

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INSIDE JW

### Tom Fitton Slams Adam Schiff's Threat to Subpoena Mueller

On February 25, Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on "Lou Dobbs Tonight" on the Fox Business Network to discuss the Mueller Probe's expected report and Rep. Adam Schiff's threat to subpoena Mueller.



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**From:** Christie Fogarty <info@heritage.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 30, 2016 3:12 PM EST  
**To:** Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Tomorrow is your last day

Robert,

As 2016 is winding down, time is running out for you to [make a tax-deductible gift to The Heritage Foundation](#).

Your gift will position Heritage to drive real change in the weeks ahead, when so many leaders will transition into their new roles.

If you believe that a successful and prosperous America requires adherence to conservative principles, join me in keeping these ideas strong this coming January and beyond.

[Your gift must be received by midnight tomorrow](#) to help Heritage prepare policies for the Trump administration and for you to count it as a deduction for Tax Year 2016.

Thank you for standing with us at this important time.

With gratitude,

Christie Fogarty  
Director of Membership  
The Heritage Foundation

The Heritage Foundation

You are subscribed to Heritage Foundation e-mails as phillips@coj.net. If you'd rather not hear from me again, you can respond back to this email or [click here to update your preferences](#).

-

**From:** Ed Feulner <info@heritage.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 13, 2017 12:02 PM EDT  
**To:** Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Tuesday

Robert,

I hope you're enjoying your Sunday.

Ronald Reagan was famous for saying that "freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction."

That's why it's so important that we get our research and policy proposals to the Trump administration and lawmakers so that they will drain the swamp of bureaucracy, cronyism and waste, and protect our constitutional rights.

Heritage is doing exactly that and [we need your help to succeed](#). You're running out of time to accept the Board's matching challenge and have your gift matched dollar for dollar. [Make your gift today before time runs out >>](#)

All of us at Heritage appreciate your commitment to reclaiming America.

Thank you,

Ed Feulner  
President

The Heritage Foundation

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**From:** JW Corruption Chronicles <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2019 10:11 AM EST

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** U.S. Combats Child Marriage Abroad, Grants Thousands of Spousal Visas for Immigrant Kids

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CORRUPTION CHRONICLES

## U.S. Combats Child Marriage Abroad, Grants Thousands of Spousal Visas for Immigrant Kids

While the U.S. government advances policies to prevent child marriage in foreign countries it approves thousands of petitions filed by Americans seeking spouse or fiancé visas for children born abroad. In the last decade more than 8,500 petitions for spousal entry into the U.S. involved minors, according to government figures included in a Senate Homeland Security report ([How the U.S. Immigration System Encourages Child Marriages](#)) released this month.

In an overwhelming number of the cases girls were the younger party and in some there were “significant age differences,” Senate investigators found. Two were only 13 years old, 38 were 14 years old, 269 were 15 years old, and 1,768 were 16. The remaining 6,609 were 17 years old, according to the records which were obtained from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

In a disturbing example, the agency approved a 71-year-old American citizen’s visa request for a 17-year-old spouse from Guatemala. In another, the agency granted a 14-year-old U.S. citizen’s petition for a 48-year-old spouse from Jamaica. USCIS also rubber-stamped 149 applications involving a minor with an adult spouse or fiancé over the age of 40. Nearly 5,000 minors in the United States on spousal or fiancé visas received green cards to become lawful permanent residents, federal figures show.

“U.S. law and U.S. Department of State policy aim to prevent and reduce the risks of child marriages occurring around the world, yet major loopholes in U.S. law have allowed thousands of minors to be subjected to child marriages,” the senate report states. “Under the Immigration and Nationality Act (“INA”), a U.S. child may petition for a visa for a spouse or fiancé living in another country, and a U.S. adult may petition for a visa for a minor spouse or fiancé living abroad.”

Two government agencies—USCIS and the State Department—must approve spouse or fiancé visas. The request is initially made to USCIS, which does not require parental or judicial consent for minors. Once the agency approves the application, the State Department usually issues the visa.

“The State Department returns or rejects few spousal or fiancé immigrant visa petitions after they are approved by USCIS,” the report states. Senate investigators spoke with a “child marriage victim” who was forced to marry her older cousin during a family vacation to Pakistan. USCIS approved her spousal immigration benefit when she was just 13 years old and throughout the forced marriage, she suffered physical and sexual abuse. “She is just one of the thousands of U.S. women and girls forced into a child marriage involving the U.S. immigration system,” the report says.

Ironically, the U.S. government launched an aggressive global campaign years ago to slash an epidemic of child marriages, rampant in third-world countries. India tops the list for child marriage (15.5 million), according to a global [nonprofit](#) committed to ending it and enabling girls to fulfill their potential. Two Latin American countries—Brazil (3 million) and Mexico (1.4 million)—also appear in the top ten.

As part of the U.S. campaign to reduce child marriage abroad, Congress passed a [measure](#) in 2013 requiring the secretary

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of state to establish and implement a multiyear strategy to “prevent child marriages” and “to promote the empowerment of girls at risk of child marriage in developing countries.” A few years later the State Department launched a [Global Strategy to Empower Adolescent Girls](#) to, among other things, “reduce the risk of child, early, and forced marriage (CEFM).”

In its lengthy strategy handbook, the agency revealed that there are nearly 700 million women alive today who were married as children and 15 million more are married each year. The State Department also writes that “forced marriage is a human rights abuse and, in the case of minors, a form of child abuse.” It also creates gender inequality, contributes to economic hardship and leads to “under-investment in girls’ educational and healthcare needs.” Why would the same agency approve thousands of visas for children—mostly girls—to enter forced marriages in the U.S.?

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: Mueller is Illicitly Targeting & Harassing President Trump—DOJ Must Shut it Down

January 23, 2019- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Mornings on the Mall” on WMAL to discuss Robert Mueller’s office refuting a BuzzFeed story about the ongoing probe into alleged Trump/Russia collusion during the 2016 election.

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Article-Image

### Chris Farrell Joins Sean Hannity Radio to to Break Down the IG Report

Judicial Watch Director of Investigations and Research Chris Farrell appeared on “The Sean Hannity Show” on Hannity Radio on June 15 to discuss the newly released IG report.

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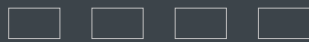
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**From:** JW Corruption Chronicles <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 16, 2019 9:20 AM EST

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** U.S. Doles Out Millions During Shutdown—Vulnerable Costa Rican Youth, AIDS in Mozambique

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CORRUPTION CHRONICLES

## U.S. Doles Out Millions During Shutdown—Vulnerable Costa Rican Youth, AIDS in Mozambique

The U.S. government may be shut down but it's still doling out large sums of taxpayer dollars to foreign causes that American citizens may not consider a priority. In the last few days alone, Uncle Sam dedicated millions of dollars in grants to projects that include helping socially vulnerable youth in crime-ridden Costa Rican communities, tackling an AIDS epidemic in Mozambique, improving health in Nigeria and surveilling "important diseases in Senegal."

There are plenty more with details posted this month on the government's [grant website](#) which says that, during a lapse in federal appropriations, the system will "remain in an operational status."

Just yesterday hundreds of thousands of dollars were allocated to the Costa Rican youth project and the Mozambique AIDS program. The U.S. feels obligated to help Costa Rican youths tempted to quit school and join a crime gang, according to the [grant announcement](#). "

In vulnerable communities, poverty and lack of opportunities are factors that make young people quit school and start working or join a crime gang," it reads. "Efforts from local governments have been concentrated in getting these demographic opportunities to finish high school and get a job.

This is key to reduce crime and youth involvement in the narcotraffic chain." The document offers a history of the Central American nation's sustained increase in violent crime, mainly associated with drug trafficking. This includes a surge in homicides and the use of illicit drugs.

To save the vulnerable youth, American taxpayers will spend \$150,000 on an experimental, one-year program. "National and international data show that many Costa Rican communities are in significant need of assistance as they continue to experience a myriad of serious drug problems," the grant announcement says.

The government also [announced](#) yesterday that it is dedicating \$274,676 to counter a growing epidemic of HIV and AIDS in Mozambique, where around 13% of the population is infected with the sexually transmitted disease.

The magnitude of the AIDS epidemic and the African country's "health infrastructure" limitations call for the U.S. to step in, according to the grant document. The money will support a national HIV response plan that may reduce new infections and care for those already infected.

Nearly 2 million Mozambicans have HIV, according to government figures included in the announcement, which also reveals that women are infected at a higher rate (15%) than men (10%). "Key factors driving the epidemic include multiple sexual partners, high levels of mobility and migration, cross-generational sex, transactional sex, low perception of risk, gender inequality and sexual violence, limited condom use, and limited treatment coverage," it reads.

A whopping [\\$5 million](#) is going to programs that strengthen public health in Nigeria, the U.S. government confirmed this

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month. The money will fund epidemiological studies and laboratory-based projects and surveillance of “important diseases” in the African nation nearly 6,000 miles across the Atlantic.

This includes but is not limited to acute febrile illness, emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, zoonotic and vector borne diseases as well as environmental health issues, biosafety and security and other public health threats.

“Research projects should outline clear plans to incorporate the results of research activities into operational disease detection, prevention, and response or control programs in Nigeria and ensure the strengthening of local workforce capacity and dissemination of findings across the region, with partners, and globally,” the U.S. grant document says. “Other areas for research include activities to antimicrobial resistance and hospital acquired infections, respiratory infections and influenza, enteric illnesses, and other public health threats.

The Senegal health project will receive [\\$1 million](#), according to a grant announcement posted this month, for a similar program involving diseases in the African nation. These public health research projects may include but are not limited to activities to address acute febrile illness, antimicrobial resistance and hospital acquired infections, respiratory infections and influenza, enteric illnesses, and other public health threats,” the document reads.

As in Nigeria, the U.S.-funded project will also focus on emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, zoonotic and vector borne diseases; environmental health issues effecting infectious diseases (such as water and air); vaccine-preventable diseases; biosafety and security; public health threats of local importance, and implementation research to evaluate the impact of public health programs and interventions and their cost effectiveness. These are just a few of many examples illustrating how government is handing out cash for questionable causes during the so-called shutdown.

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: Steele was Working for the Clinton Camp to Target President Trump

August 10, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Hannity” on the Fox News Channel to discuss Judicial Watch lawsuits for DOJ for access to communications between Bruce Ohr, Christopher Steele and Fusion GPS.

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Article-Image

### Tom Fitton Slams Mueller for 'Disparate Treatment' Between Trump Team & Clinton Camp

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton said that he believes special counsel Robert Mueller is giving “disparate treatment” to contacts with Russia by the Trump campaign. Fitton said on “Fox & Friends First” that the workings of the Podesta Group, a top Washington, D.C., lobbying firm, are just as big an issue for Mueller’s team to examine.

Article-Image

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**From:** JW Corruption Chronicles <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 06, 2019 12:58 PM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** U.S. Government Media Network Fires Journalists Over Report Critical of Soros

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CORRUPTION CHRONICLES

## U.S. Government Media Network Fires Journalists Over Report Critical of Soros

At the request of a scandal-plagued Democratic senator tried for bribery and corruption, the head of the government's international media networks is abusing his office to punish employees behind a broadcast critical of leftwing billionaire George Soros. U.S.

Agency for Global Media (USAGM) Chief John F. Lansing, an Obama appointee, is utilizing Stalinist techniques to retaliate against the journalists and producers involved in the Spanish-language segment which aired in May 2018 on Television Martí and was available for months online. Eight reporters and editors at the taxpayer-funded media outlet have been fired and Lansing has ordered a [review](#) of all content to address "patterns of unethical, unprofessional, biased, or sub-standard journalism."

An employee at the Miami, Florida-based Martí headquarters said in a local [newspaper report](#) "the environment that has been created by the upper hierarchy of the Agency for Global Media is repressive. People write with fear. Adjectives are no longer used."

Television Martí—and its radio counterpart—operate under the Office of Cuba Broadcasting (OCB) and comprise one of the USAGM's five international multimedia networks. The others are Voice of America (VOA), Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL), Radio Free Asia and Middle East Broadcasting. The media outlets get about \$685 million a year from American taxpayers and reportedly reach 345 million people worldwide in 59 languages.

The global media agency was created to counter disinformation spread by oppressive regimes abroad. The USAGM [website](#) states that its mission is "to inform, engage and connect people around the world in support of freedom and democracy." Television and Radio Martí were created to promote freedom and democracy by providing the people of Cuba with objective news and information programming.

The Soros broadcast focused on his efforts to cripple sovereign governments in Latin America. Judicial Watch was cited as a source because it [investigated](#) State Department funding of Soros groups in Colombia and published a [report](#) on Soros' initiatives to advance a radical globalist agenda in Guatemala. Judicial Watch also released a [special report](#) documenting the financial and staffing nexus between Soros' Open Society Foundations (OSF) and the U.S. government.

In that document, Judicial Watch connects the dots between U.S.-funded entities and OSF affiliates to further the Hungarian-born philanthropist's agenda seeking to destabilize legitimate governments, erase national borders, target conservative politicians, finance civil unrest, subvert institutions of higher education, and orchestrate refugee crises for political gain. A few years ago Judicial Watch [exposed](#) a scheme in which the U.S. government spent millions of dollars to destabilize the democratically elected, center-right government in Macedonia by colluding with Soros' OSF.

More than five months after the Spanish-language Soros broadcast aired on Television Martí, the segment caught the eye of disgraced New Jersey Senator Bob Menendez. In an October 31, 2018 [letter](#) to Lansing, the senator orders an

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immediate investigation into the Soros broadcast as well as an audit “on patterns of unethical and unprofessional reporting” at OCB. Menendez also smears Judicial Watch, stating that the Soros segment had “no credible sourcing” and “occasionally cites only a fringe website.”

Lansing uses similar language in a mainstream newspaper [article](#) about the recent Martí firings over the Soros video. “The person developing the Soros story was using Judicial Watch as a source as I understand it — the story was not only poorly sourced, it relied heavily on one less-than-credible source,” Lansing says in the article, which states that “Soros has emerged as a leading boogeyman on the right.”

Menendez, who serves on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee despite his sordid history, blocked President Trump’s nomination last year to replace Lansing as USAGM chief. A few years ago, Menendez was [charged](#) with federal bribery and corruption stemming from his relationship with a crooked south Florida eye doctor that lavished him with cash, gifts and trips in exchange for political favors. The eye doctor, Salomon Melgen, got convicted of stealing \$73 million from Medicare and was sentenced to [17 years in prison](#). Menendez got off because jurors were unable to reach a verdict and his trial ended in mistrial.

His colleagues on the Senate Ethics Committee determined that the veteran lawmaker not only violated senate rules, but also federal law and applicable standards of conduct. In a public [letter](#) of admonition, the committee writes that over a six-year period Menendez knowingly and repeatedly accepted gifts of significant value from Melgen in violation of senate rules and federal law. “Additionally, while accepting these gifts, you used your position as a Member of the Senate to advance Dr. Melgen’s personal and business interests,” the committee writes.

Menendez has been embroiled in other corruption schemes throughout his political career and Judicial Watch has served as a credible source in uncovering them. As far back as 2007, Menendez was [investigated](#) by a federal grand jury for illegally steering lobbying business to his former chief of staff Kay LiCausi, with whom he was also romantically linked. In just a few years, her firm reported \$1.3 million in business with nearly \$300,000 coming from a New Jersey medical center that was later awarded government funding thanks to a push from her [former boss](#) and lover.

In 2010, Menendez and his colleague in corruption, New Jersey Democrat Frank Lautenberg, allocated [\\$8 million](#) for a public walkway and park space adjacent to upscale, waterfront condos built by a developer whose executives donated generously to their political campaigns. Perhaps not so coincidentally, the developer’s Washington D.C. lobbyist was a longtime senior aide to Menendez. The senator was also embroiled in a [hooker scandal](#) in the Dominican Republic with his incarcerated eye doctor pal and he hired an [illegal immigrant sex offender](#) to work in his senate office.

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: A DOJ Spying Investigation would be a Win for the Rule of Law

JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “Fox and Friends” on the Fox News Channel to discuss President Trump’s request for a DOJ probe into whether the FBI infiltrated his campaign.

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Article-Image

## Chris Farrell: Bruce Ohr is the Linchpin of the Steel Dossier Controversy

JW Director of Investigations and Research Chris Farrell appeared on "Lou Dobbs Tonight" on the Fox Business Network to discuss Bruce Ohr and Fusion GPS.

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**From:** JW Corruption Chronicles <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 13, 2019 2:10 PM EST

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** VA Evicts Groups that Help Vets; Dog Park, Baseball Stadium, Prep School Athletic Fields, Upscale Store Parking Stay

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CORRUPTION CHRONICLES

## VA Evicts Groups that Help Vets; Dog Park, Baseball Stadium, Prep School Athletic Fields, Upscale Store Parking Stay

The Los Angeles Veterans Affairs (VA) facility that illegally rents its sprawling grounds to institutions that don't serve veterans just evicted several groups dedicated to veterans, including a nonprofit that for decades has comforted dying vets and another that helps those who are disabled.

While the VA gave the volunteer organizations the boot without offering an explanation, it continues housing a parking lot for nearby upscale shops, a university baseball stadium, a dog park for the professional dog walkers of affluent residents, and athletic fields for a fancy prep school.

It marks the latest of several scandals involving the misuse of this VA property, where a top official [pleaded guilty](#) to multiple felonies last year for taking bribes from a parking lot operator that defrauded the agency out of millions. This month at least five established nonprofits dedicated to providing veterans with therapeutic activities, counseling and other valuable survival skills have been evicted while private businesses that don't benefit vets remain.

The Jewish War Veterans is among the organizations that just got kicked out along with Twilight Brigade, the Disabled American Veterans, Vet-to-Vet and the Association for Parrot C.A.R.E., which provides therapeutic activities for vets at its parrot sanctuary. A local newspaper [reported](#) the latest travesty at the southern California VA this week, but Judicial Watch has for years investigated, sued and obtained government documents involving the VA's illegal use of this parcel.

The 338-acre property in West Los Angeles, which includes the National Veterans Park and Veterans Home, was deeded to the federal government in 1888 for the specific purpose of caring for disabled veterans. Thousands of disabled veterans once lived on the grounds, which also had churches, theaters, a library and post office. In the 1960s and 1970s the [VA quietly closed the facilities](#), according to the American Legion, and ousted mentally disabled veterans.

In recent years, the property has been used for many causes unrelated to veterans. Among them is a stadium for the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) baseball team, an athletic complex for a nearby private high school, laundry facilities for a local hotel, storage and maintenance of production sets for 20th Century Fox Television, the Brentwood Theatre, soccer practice and match fields for a private girls' soccer club, a dog park, and a farmer's market.

For nearly a decade a group called the Old Veterans Guard has filed complaints against rampant corruption at the Los Angeles campus, specifically for abusing and misappropriating VA property. The group assembled weekly and on Memorial Day to protest the VA's failure to make full use of the facility to benefit veterans, particularly those who are homeless. The government retaliated by sending VA police to harass and intimidate them at weekly rallies.

One of the group's leaders, an elderly Army vet named Robert Rosebrock, got [criminally charged](#) for posting a pair of four-by-six-inch American Flags on the outside fence of the Los Angeles VA on Memorial Day in 2016. The fence is part of the

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“Great Lawn Gate” and marks the entrance to the Los Angeles National Veterans Park. Judicial Watch represented Rosebrock in the federal case, which was tried in U.S. District Court for the Central District of California. The court eventually ruled that Rosebrock was [not guilty](#) of violating federal law for displaying the flags above the VA fence.

Judicial Watch sued the VA Police and other agency officials for violating Rosebrock’s and his fellow protestors’ Constitutional rights. Judicial Watch has also sued the VA twice for documents related to the non-veteran use of the Los Angeles facility and obtained [records](#) that show the VA paid private businesses hundreds of thousands of dollars to reimburse them for terminating unlawful lease agreements.

A 2011 [lawsuit](#) accusing the VA of misusing the Los Angeles grounds and illegally leasing the land forced the agency to make changes. As part of a settlement, the VA [announced](#) that it would dedicate the West L.A. campus to “serving veterans in need” by, among other things, designing a plan to help end homelessness among the county’s veterans. The legal settlement also compelled the VA to terminate leases with private businesses that were never supposed to be there in the first place.

The records obtained by Judicial Watch reveal that the VA paid Twentieth Century Fox Television \$435,000 and a construction company building an illegal amphitheater on the north side of the grounds \$287,318. The television studio used 72,160 square feet of VA land for parking, storage and maintenance of production sets.

Just a few months ago a [federal audit](#) exposed rampant fraud and corruption involving the illicit land sharing agreements made by crooked VA officials in Los Angeles. Judicial Watch launched an investigation into the deals and has three Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests pending.

## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### In Case You Missed it...

Yesterday, President Trump retweeted Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton twice! One tweet was about our episode of Inside Judicial Watch with Tom Fitton and the other was our press release about new information about the Podesta brothers!

 [READ MORE](#)

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton Goes on the Chris Plante Show

August 10, 2018- JW President Tom Fitton appeared on “the Chris Plante Show” on WMAL to discuss FBI payments to Christopher Steele and Judicial Watch’s lawsuit for communications between Steele, Bruce Ohr, and Fusion GPS.

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Article-Image

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Support us with your Holiday purchases! You sign up for Amazon Smile, Amazon gives to Judicial Watch!

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**From:** JW Newslink <press@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 10:53 AM EST

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** Virginia governor announces bill to repeal voter ID requirement, allow no-excuse absentee voting

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NEWSLINK

## BREAKING NEWS...

600x300

### Virginia governor announces bill to repeal voter ID requirement, allow no-excuse absentee voting

Source: [The Hill](#)

Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam (D) announced that he is introducing a legislative package that would repeal voter identification requirements and implement no-excuse absentee voting.

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## Background Notes from Judicial Watch

180x150x1

2016-06-14

**Judicial Watch Sues**

**Virginia Gov.**

**McAuliffe Over**

**Executive Order**

**Granting 206,000**

**Felons Voting Rights**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Judicial Watch filed a



lawsuit on behalf of several Virginia voters against Governor Terry McAuliffe and other commonwealth officials over McAuliffe's executive order that attempts to restore voting rights to about 206,000 convicted felons.

☐ [READ MORE](#)

180x150x2

2013-10-16

**Judicial Watch Files  
Friend of Court Brief  
in Support of  
Virginia Efforts to  
Clean Voter Rolls**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Judicial Watch has filed an amicus curiae brief in support of the Virginia Board of Election's plan to remove as many as 57,000 voters deemed ineligible from the Virginia voter registration rolls.

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180x150x3

2008-09-22

**Obama Gets Virginia  
City To Wave  
Election Law**

Source: [Judicial Watch](#)

Taking orders from Barack Obama's campaign, election officials in a crucial battleground state are waving procedures for registering new voters even though doing so violates state election laws.

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## Daywatch Updates

Article-Image

### Tom Fitton: At this Point, Mueller Probe is 'Harassment'

Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton appeared on "Fox & Friends First" weighed in on the special counsel probe's impact over the last year and what it could mean for Mueller's final report, reportedly expected by February.

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### Join us on JW Podcast!

Join us on JW podcast to listen to Tom Fitton on Judicial Watch's Weekly Update!

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Check out JWTV on our Youtube Page!

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**From:** Twitter <info@twitter.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 21, 2017 4:19 PM EDT  
**To:** Hinson, Linda <LHinson@coj.net>  
**Subject:** W. Kent Fuchs Tweeted: Amazing.

# Your Highlights

**W. Kent Fuchs**  
@PresidentFuchs

Amazing.

**After punch at Richard Spencer protest, an unlikely friendship**  
After Julius Long helped Randy Furniss away from an angry crowd Thursday, the pair struck up ... [more](#)  
gainesville.com

2093270

**Heritage Foundation** ☐  
@Heritage

The federal government's heavy-handed policies have made higher education more expensive and unattainable for many.

**Seven Essential Policies for a Higher Education Act Reauthorization | The Heritage Foundation**  
Policies that will bring meaningful and needed change to the higher education sector should b... [more](#)  
heritage.org

51520

**Mike Williams**  
@jsosheriff

JSO goes Pink!

1229

**Dan Elkin..**  
@RevElkins

One of the things I love about going on a retreat with my students is seeing those who normally don't connect hanging out with new people.

1

**Nancy13**  
@NancyxNancy13

I received \$25 PayPal. [#instagc](#) [#free](#) [#cash](#) [instagc.com/492371](#)

**Monica Crowley** ☐  
@MonicaCrowley

RT [@KimStrassel](#): The Fusion Collusion

## The Fusion Collusion

Democrats are trying to protect the firm's secrets—so the GOP should keep digging.

wsj.com



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Twitter

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We sent this email to @LhinsonLinda

Twitter, Inc. 1355 Market Street, Suite 900 San Francisco, CA 94103

**From:** Tom Fitton <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 06, 2019 9:03 AM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** We Need to Shut Down Sanctuary Cities

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Judicial Watch

Dear Fellow American,

Judicial Watch is in court against the San Francisco Sheriff's sanctuary policy that restricts sheriff deputies from communicating freely with federal immigration authorities about inmates' citizenship, immigration status, and release dates.

Our lawsuit is important because sanctuary policies are illegal and dangerous!

For example, I'm sure you remember the tragic 2015 death of Kate Steinle who was killed on a famous San Francisco pier allegedly by an illegal alien who had been released from the San Francisco Sheriff's Department...despite a request from ICE that he be detained for possible deportation!

If we prevail in our taxpayer lawsuit and **this San Francisco sanctuary policy is struck down, it will send seismic legal waves rolling across America!**

This is why Judicial Watch's dogged persistence in the courts to fight for the rule of law is so critically important in shutting down sanctuary policies and securing our borders.

**[Will you help us fight sanctuary city policies like San Francisco's by making your most generous contribution to Judicial Watch today?](#)**

CONTRIBUTE

You see...

...We believe that the pattern of wantonly violating immigration laws by – both illegal alien criminals and, worse, government officials and politicians – is deeply corrosive to the rule of law.

...We also believe that sanctuary policies erode our nation's sovereignty by encouraging aliens to enter our nation and remain here illegally.

**Your support now** will not only help in this important sanctuary city case in San Francisco, but will also support all of our work fighting for the rule of law in America.

Thank you for **your best donation now** in support of Judicial Watch.

Sincerely,  
Tom

Tom Fitton  
President

[contribution today to Judicial Watch.](#)

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UNSUBSCRIBE

**From:** Tom Fitton <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 28, 2019 8:19 AM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** We're in the courts to ensure an honest and open government

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email originated from a non-COJ email address. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Judicial Watch

Dear Fellow American,

Judicial Watch wants to hold the government accountable to "We the People."

To accomplish this, Judicial Watch investigates and files lawsuits to try to uncover the latest scandals and stop government corruption.

[Will you stand with us in our fight for against corruption by making your very best gift to Judicial Watch right away?](#)

CONTRIBUTE

Judicial Watch has a proven track record for uncovering the truth...

...such as when we changed the course of history by breaking open Hillary Clinton's use of secret emails when she was Secretary of State...

...when we broke through the Obama White House stone wall and exposed its cover up of the Benghazi terrorist attack....

...and when our investigation and subsequent lawsuits exposed the conspiracy that used the IRS to target and harass conservative groups in order to help Barack Obama win reelection in 2012.

**But the fight for accountability is far from over!**

[I need your help to keep waging this war to ensure that 'We the People' have an honest and open government.](#)

Today, Judicial Watch continues to uncover the truth about these and so many other Obama-Clinton scandals, while working to expose the illicit Deep State conspiracy to destroy President Trump.

This is in addition to our work fighting to keep our elections honest and fair while working to enforce our laws against illegal immigration and "sanctuary" cities.

And we are NOT going to give the Trump administration a pass as we continue to hold the administration to its promise to "Drain the Swamp"

[Can we count on your support to help ensure that the government is held accountable and honest?](#)

Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,

Thomas Fitton

AMERICAN  
OVERSIGHT

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President

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**From:** Tom Fitton <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 28, 2019 12:55 PM EDT

**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>

**Subject:** We're Suing Everybody

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email originated from a non-COJ email address. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Judicial Watch

Peter Strzok...

Rod Rosenstein...

Andrew McCabe...

Fellow American, we've filed lawsuits against several government agencies to uncover communications by each of these individuals and other government officials to get to the truth about the Deep State targeting of President Trump.

[Will you help us root out the Deep State and its operatives with your best contribution right away?](#)

You and every American should be angry and genuinely frightened by what our nation is confronted with today as unelected elites within the government are working to invalidate our elections and control our government!

[But with your help today.](#) Judicial Watch will expose them through our expanding investigation, lawsuits and public education campaigns. [Please help today!](#)

Sincerely,

Thomas Fitton  
President

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AMERICAN  
OVERSIGHT

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**From:** Tom Fitton <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 03, 2019 9:53 AM EDT  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** We're Suing Several Government Agencies

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Judicial Watch

Peter Strzok...

Rod Rosenstein...

Andrew McCabe...

Fellow American, we've filed lawsuits against several government agencies to uncover communications by each of these individuals and other government officials to get to the truth about the Deep State targeting of President Trump.

[Will you help us root out the Deep State and its operatives with your best contribution right away?](#)

You and every American should be angry and genuinely frightened by what our nation is confronted with today as unelected elites within the government are working to invalidate our elections and control our government!

[But with your help today.](#) Judicial Watch will expose them through our expanding investigation, lawsuits and public education campaigns. [Please help today!](#)

Sincerely,

Thomas Fitton  
President

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**From:** Kay Coles James <info@heritage.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 18, 2018 7:19 PM EST  
**To:** Phillips, Robert <Phillips@coj.net>  
**Subject:** What you can do this year

Dear Robert,

This year can be a turning point for conservatives. This can be a year where Americans bring freedom back to our healthcare system . . . protect our borders and communities . . . rebuild our national defense . . . and restore the principles enshrined in the Constitution.

I don't want you to miss out. [Become a member of The Heritage Foundation today.](#)

Thank you for your support of the conservative movement.

All the best,

Kay Coles James  
President

The Heritage Foundation

You are subscribed to Heritage Foundation e-mails as phillips@coj.net. If you'd rather not hear from me again, you can respond back to this email or [click here to update your preferences](#).

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**From:** Tom Fitton <media@pr.judicialwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 24, 2019 9:33 AM EST  
**To:** Hall, Violet <VHall@coj.net>  
**Subject:** Will you stand with us?

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Judicial Watch

Dear Fellow American,

I hope you share our commitment to fighting public corruption and standing firm for the rule of law. [I also hope you will back that commitment with your best tax-deductible contribution to Judicial Watch today.](#)

Because right now we are in a historic time of big changes in Washington as Judicial Watch is helping “drain the swamp” by:

- Investigating and suing key federal agencies for documents related to the corrupt and lawless Deep State conspiracy to spy on, discredit, prosecute and drive President Trump from office. We’ve already forced the release of key documents exposing the Deep State, and we are now pursuing over 30 active lawsuits...[with more surely to come!](#)
- Challenging liberal “sanctuary” cities and states which, despite Trump administration efforts, continue to disobey the law by refusing to cooperate with federal immigration authorities.
- Fighting voter fraud, which liberals want to pretend doesn’t exist but which we have proven through our investigations and litigation most certainly does exist! Judicial Watch supports voter ID laws and has federal lawsuits to ensure cleaner elections.
- Holding corrupt officials, like Hillary Clinton, responsible for their illegal actions so they don’t get a “pass” on accountability. Despite continued stonewalling by Deep State government lawyers in court, we continue to force the release of blockbuster documents that shed more light on the Clinton email scandal, and the sleazy Clinton “pay to play” scheme to tie the State Department favors to for contributions to the Clinton Foundation.

***Judicial Watch is America’s best (some would say only) bet to get to the truth.*** But we cannot do it without you! We’re already carrying the largest investigation and litigation caseload in our 24-year history.

This is all critically important work.

You may remember that we successfully led the fight against Obama administration secrecy and corruption as well as corruption by members of both parties – Democrat and Republican.

[And for us to be fully prepared and effective at this critical time, we need you to be an official “card-carrying” Judicial Watch member by making your best donation now!](#)

We are literally doing the law enforcement work that the highly compromised FBI, mainstream liberal media and weak Congress [won’t](#) do.

[That’s why I ask you to support our work today.](#) It is no exaggeration to say that it is not only Judicial Watch who needs you...so does America!

Sincerely,

Thomas Fitton  
President

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